¶THREE PROPER, and wittie, familiar Letters: lately passed betvvene tvvo Vniuersitie men: touching the Earthquake in Aprill last, and our English refourmed Versifying.

With the Preface of a wellwiller to them both.

IMPRINTED AT LONdon, by H. Bynneman, dvvelling in Thames ſtreate, neere vnto Baynardes Caſtell.

Anno Domini. 1580.

Cum gratia & priuilegio Regiæ Maieſtatis.

Phot. of HEH 69544

¶ TO THE CVRTEOVS Buyer, by a VVelwiller of the twvo Authours.

Vrteous Buyer, (for I write not to the enuious Carper) it was my good happe, as I interpreate it, nowe lately at the fourthe or fifte hande, to bee made acquainted wyth the *three Letters following*, by meanes of a faithfull friende, who with muche entreaty had procured the copying of them oute, at *Immeritos* handes. And I praye you, interprete it for your good happe, so soone after to come so easilye by them, throughe my meanes, who am onely to craue these twoo things at your handes, to thinke friendely of my friendly meaning, and to take them of me wyth this Presumption, *In exiguo quandoque cespite latet lepus*: and many pretious stones, thoughe in quantitie small yet in qualitie and valewe are esteemed for great. The first, for a good familiar and sensible Letter, sure liketh me verye well, and gyueth some hope of good mettall in the Author, in whome I knowe myselfe to be very good partes otherwise. But shewe me, or *Immerito*, two Englyshe Letters in Printe, in all pointes equall to the other twoo, both for the matter it selfe, and also for the manner of handling, and saye, wee neuer sawe good Englishe Letter in our liues. And yet I am credibly certified by the foresaide faithfull and honest friende, that himselfe hathe written manye of the same stampe bothe to Courtiers and others, and some of them discoursing vppon matter of great waight and importance, wherein he is said, to be fully as sufficient and hable, as in these scholerly pointes of Learning. The whiche Letters and Discourses I would very gladly see in Writing, but more gladly in Printe, if it might be obtayned. And at this time to speake my conscience in a worde of *these two following*, I esteeme them for twoo of the rarest, and finest Treaties, as wel for ingenious deuising, as also for significant vttering, & cleanly conueying of his matter, that euer I read in this Tongue: and I hartily thanke God for bestowing vppon vs some such proper and hable men with their penne, as I hartily thanke the Author himselfe, for vsing his pleasaunte, and witty Talente, with so muche discretion,

and with ſo little harme, contrarye to the veine of moſte, whych haue thys ſingular conceyted grace in writing. If they had bene of their owne ſetting forth, I graunt you they might haue beene more curious, but beeyng ſo well, and ſo ſufficiently done, as they are, in my ſimple iudgement, and hauing ſo many notable things in them, togither with ſo greate varietie of Learning, worth the reading, to pleaſure you, and to helpe to garniſh our Tongue, I feare their diſpleaſnre the leſſe. And yet, if they thinke I haue made them a faulte, in not making them priuy to the Publication: I ſhall be alwayes readye to make them the beſte amendes I can, any other friendly waye. Surely, I wiſhe them bothe hartilye wel in the Lord, and betake you and them to his mercifull gouernemente, hoping, that he will at his pleaſure conuerte ſuche good and diuine gifts as theſe, to the ſetting out of his own glory, and the benefite of his Churche. This XIX. of Iune. 1580.

(·.·)

Your, and their vnfayned friend, in the Lorde.

Three proper wittie familiar Letters, lately passed betvvene tvvo Vniuersitie men, touching the Earthquake in April last, and our Englisch reformed Versifying.

To my long approoued and singular good frende, Master *G. H.*

GOod Master H. I doubt not but you haue some great important matter in hande, which al this while restraineth youre Penne, and wonted readinesse in prouoking me vnto that, wherein your selfe nowe faulte. If there bee any such thing in hatching, I pray you hartily, lette vs knowe, before al the worlde see it. But if happly you dwell altogither in Iustinians Courte, and giue your selfe to be deuoured of secreate Studies, as of all likelyhood you doe: yet at least imparte some your olde, or newe, Latine, or Englishe, Eloquent and Gallant Poesies to vs, from whose eyes, you saye, you kéepe in a manner nothing hidden. Little newes is here stirred: but that olde greate matter still depending. His Honoure neuer better. I thinke the Earthquake was also there wyth you (which I would gladly learne) as it was here with vs: ouerthrowing diuers old buildings, and péeces of Churches. Sure verye straunge to be hearde of in these Countries, and yet I heare some saye (I knowe not howe truely) that they

haue knowne the like before in their dayes. *Sed quid vobis videtur magnis Philosophis?* I like your late English Verameters so exceedingly well, that I also enure my Penne sometime in that kinde: whyche I fynd indeede, as I haue heard you often defende in worde, neither so harde, nor so harshe, that it will easily and fairely, yelde it selfe to oure Mother tongue. For the onely, or chiefest hardnesse, whych seemeth, is in the Accente: whyche sometime gapeth, and as it were yawneth ilfauouredly, comming shorte of that it should, and sometime exceeding the measure of the Number, as in Carpenter, the middle sillable being vsed shorte in speache, when it shall be read long in Verse, seemeth like a lame Gosling, that draweth one legge after hir: and Heauen, beeing vsed shorte as one sillable, when it is in Verse, stretched out with a *Diastole*, is like a lame Dogge that holdes vp one legge. But it is to be wonne with Custome, and rough words must be subdued with Vse. For, why a Gods name may not we, as else the Greekes, haue the kingdome of oure owne Language, and measure our Accentes, by the sounde, reseruing the Quantitie to the Verse? Loe here I let you see my olde vse of toying in Rymes, turned into your artificial straightnesse of Verse, by this *Tetrasticon*. I beseech you tell me your fancie, without partialitie.

See yee the blindefoulded pretie God, that feathered Archer,
Of Louers Miseries which maketh his bloodie Game?
Wote ye why, his Moother with a Veale hath coouered his Face?
Trust me, least he my Looue happely chaunce to beholde.

Seeme they comparable to those two, which I translated you *ex tempore* in bed, the last time we lay togither in Westminster?

That which I eate, did I ioy, and that which I greedily gorged,
As for those many goodly matters leaft I for others.

I would hartily wish, you would either send me the Rules and Precepts of Arte, which you obserue in Quantities, or else followe mine, that M. Philip Sidney gaue me, being the very same which M. Drant deuised, but enlarged with M.

Sidneys

Sidneys owne iudgement, and augmented with my Obſeruations, that we might both accorde and agrée in one: leaſte we ouerthrowe one an other, and be ouerthrown of the reſt. Truſte me, you will hardly beléeue what greate good liking and eſtimation Maiſter Dyer had of youre Satyricall Verſes, and I, ſince the viewe thereof, hauing before of my ſelfe had ſpeciall liking of Engliſhe Verſifying, am euen nowe aboute to giue you ſome token, what, and howe well therein I am able to doe: for, to tell you trueth, I minde ſhortely at conuenient leyſure, to ſette forth a Booke in this kinde, whyche I entitle, *Epithalamion Thameſis*, whyche Booke I dare vndertake will be very profitable for the knowledge, and rare for the Inuention, and manner of handling. For in ſetting forth the marriage of the Thames: I ſhewe his firſt beginning, and offſpring, and all the Countrey, that he paſſeth thorough, and alſo deſcribe all the Riuers throughout Englande, whyche came to this Wedding, and their righte names, and right paſſage, &c. A worke beléeue me, of much labour, wherein notwithſtanding Maſter Holinſhed hath muche furthered and aduantaged me, who therein hath beſtowed ſingular paines, in ſearching oute their firſte heades, and ſourſes: and alſo in tracing, and dogging oute all their Courſe, til they fall into the Sea.

O Tite, ſiquid, ego,
Ecquid erit preti?

But of that more hereafter. Nowe, my Dreames, and dying Pellicane, being fully finiſhed (as I partelye ſignified in my laſte Letters) and preſentlye to bée imprinted, I wil in haude forthwith with my Faery Queene, whyche I praye you hartily ſend me with al expedition: and your frendly Letters, and long expected Iudgement wythal, whyche let not be ſhorte, but in all pointes ſuche, as you ordinarilye vſe, and I extraordinarily deſire. *Multum vale. Weſtminſter. Quarto Nonas Aprilis* 1580. *Sed, amabò te, Meum Corculum tibi ſe ex animo commendat plurimùm: iamdiu mirata, te nihil ad literas ſuas reſponſi dediſſe. Vide queſo, ne id tibi Capitale ſit: Mihi*

certè

certè quidem erit, neq; tibi hercle impunè, vt opinor, Iterum vale, & quàm voles sæpè.

Yours alwayes to commaunde
IMMERITO.

Postscripte.

I take best my Dreames shoulde come forth alone, being growen by meanes of the Glosse, (rũning continually in maner of a Paraphrase) full as great as my Calendar. Therin be some things excellently, and many things wittily discoursed of E. K. and the Pictures so singularly set forth, and purtrayed, as if Michael Angelo were there, he could (I think) nor amende the best, nor reprehende the worst. I know you woulde lyke them passing wel. Of my *Stemmata Dudleiana*, and especially of the sundry Apostrophes therein, addressed you knowe to whome, muste more aduisement be had, than so lightly to sende them abroade: howbeit, truste me (though I doe neuer very well,) yet in my owne fancie, I neuer dyd better: *Veruntamen te sequor solùm: nunquam verò assequar.*

A Pleasant and pithy familiar discourse, of the Earthquake in Aprill last.

To my loouing frende, *M. Immerito.*

IGnor Immerito, after as many gentle Godmorrowes, as your self, and your swéete Harte listeth: May it please your Maisterschippe to dispense with a poore Oratour of yours, for breaking one principall graund Rule of our olde inuiolable Rules of Rhetorick, in shewing himselfe somewhat too pleasurably disposed in a sad matter: (of purpose, to méete with A coople of shrewde wittie new marryed Gentlewomen, which were more Inquisitiue, than Capable of Natures workes) I will report you a prettie conceited discourse, that I had with them no longer agoe, than yesternight, in a Gentlemans house, here in Essex. Where being in the company of certaine curteous Gentlemen, and those two Gentlewomen, it was my chaunce to be well occuppyed, I warrant you, at Cardes, (which I dare saye I scarcely handled a whole twelvemonth before) at that very instant, that the Earth vnder vs quaked, and the house shaked aboue: besides the mouing, and ratling of the Table, and fourmes, where wée sat. Whereupon, the two Gentlewomen hauing continually béene wrangling with all the rest, and especially with my selfe, and euen at that same very moment, making a great

loude noyſe, and much a dœ: Gœd Lo?de, quoth I, is it not wœnderful ſtraunge that the delicate voyces of two ſo p?oper fine Gentlewœmen, ſhoulde make ſuch a ſuddayne terrible Earthquake? Imagining in gœd fayth, nothing in the wo?lde leſſe, than that it ſhoulde be any Earthquake in dæde, and imputing that ſhaking to the ſuddayne ſturring, and remœuing of ſome cumberous thing o? other, in the vpper Chamber ouer our Heades: which onely in effect moſt of vs noted, ſcarcely perceyuing the reſt, bæing ſo cloſely and eagerly ſet at our game, and ſome of vs taking on, as they did. But beholde, all on the ſuddayne there commeth ſtumbling into the Parlour, the Gentleman of the houſe, ſomewhat ſtraungely affrighted, and in a manner all agaſt, and telleth vs, as well as his Head and Tongue wouldе giue him leaue, what a wœnderous violent motion, and ſhaking there was of all things in his Hall: ſenſibly and viſibly ſæne, as well of his owne ſelfe, as of many of his Seruauntes, and Neighbours there. I ſtraite wayes be-ginning to thinke ſomewhat mo?e ſeriouſly of the matter: Then I p?ay you, gœd Sy?, quoth I, ſend p?eſently one of your ſeruauntes farther into the Towne, to enquire, if the like hath happened there, as moſt likely is, and then muſt it næedes be ſome Earthquake. Whereat the gœd fearefull Gentleman being a little recomfo?ted, (as miſdoubting, and d?eading befo?e, I knowe not what in his owne Houſe, as many others did) and immediately diſpatching his man into the Towne, wæ had by and by certayne wœ?d, that it was ge?erall ouer all the Towne, and within leſſe than a quarter of an ho?we after, that the very like behappened the nert Towne tœ, being a farre greater and gœdlyer Towne. The Gentlewœmens hartes nothing acquaynted with any ſuch Accidentes, were maruellouſly daunted: and they, that immediately befo?e were ſo eagerly, and græddily p?aying on vs, began nowe fo?ſœth, very demurely, and deuoutely to p?ay vnto God, and the one eſpecially, that was euen nowe in the Houſe toppe. I beſæche you hartily quoth ſhæ,

let

let vs leaue off playing, and fall a praying. By my truely, I was neuer so scared in my lyfe, Me thinkes it maruellous straunge. What good Partener? Cannot you pray to your selfe, quoth one of the Gentlemen, but all the House must heare you, and ring Allin to our Ladyes Mattins? I see women are euery way vehement, and affectionate. Your selfe was liker euen nowe, to make a fraye, than to pray: and will you nowe nedes in all hast bee on both your knees? Let vs, and you say it, first dispute the matter, what daunger, and terror it carryeth with it. God be praysed, it is already ceased, and here be some present, that are able cunningly, and clearkly to argue the case. I beseeche you master, or my Estrelle, your zealous and deuoute Passion a while. And with that turning to me, and smiling a little at the first: Nowe I pray you, Master H. what say you Philosophers, quoth he, to this suddayne Earthquake? May there not be some sensible Naturall cause therof, in the concauities of the Earth it self, as some forcible and violent Eruption of wynde, or the like? Yes no doubt, sir, may there, quoth I, as well, as an Intelligible Supernaturall: and peraduenture the great aboundaunce and superfluitie of waters, that fell shortly after Michaelmas last, beeyng not as yet dryed, or drawen vp with the heate of the Sunne, which hath not yet recouered his full attractiue strength and power, might minister some occasion thereof, as might easily be discoursed by Naturall Philosophie, in what sorte the pores, and ventes, and crannies of the Earth being so stopped, and fylled vp euery where with moysture, that the windie Exhaltations, and Vapors, pent vp as it were in the bowels thereof, could not otherwise get out, and ascende to their Naturall Originall place. But the Termes of Arte, and verye Natures of things themselues so vtterly vnknowen, as they are to most heere, it were a peece of worke to laye open the Reason to euery ones Capacitie.

I know well, it is we that you meane, quoth one of ỹ Gentlewomen (whom for distinction sake, and bicause I imagine

they would be loath to be named, I will hereafter call, Hy-
ſtreſſe Inquiſitiua, and the other, Madame Incredula:) now I
beſeeche you, learned Syr, try our wittes a little, and let vs
heare a peece of your deepe Vniuerſitie Cunning. Seeing you
Gentlewomen will allgates haue it ſo, with a good will,
quoth I: and then forſooth, very ſolemnly pawſing a whyle,
moſt grauely, and doctorally proceeded, as followeth.

The Earth you knowe, is a mightie great huge body, and
conſiſteth of many diuers, and contrarie members, & vaines,
and arteries, and concauities, wherein to auoide the abſur-
ditie of *Vacuum*, moſt neceſſarily be very great ſtore of ſub-
ſtantiall matter, and ſundry Accidentall humours, & fumes,
and ſpirites, either good, or bad, or mixte. Good they cannot
poſſibly all be, whereout is ingendred ſo much bad, as name-
ly ſo many poyſonſull, and venemous Hearbes, and Beaſtes,
beſides a thouſand infectiue, and contagious thinges elſe. If
they be bad, bad you muſt needes graunt is ſubiect to bad,
and then can there not, I watrant you, want an Obiect, for
bad to worke vpon. If mixt, which ſeemeth moſt probable,
yet is it impoſſible, that there ſhould be ſuch an equall, and
proportionable Temperature, in all, and ſingular reſpectes,
but ſometime the Euill (in the diuels name,) will as it were
interchaungeably haue his naturall Predominaunt Courſe,
and ſtue one way, or other. Which euill working vehement-
ly in the partes, and malitiouſly encountering the good, for-
cibly tolleth, and cruelly diſturbeth the whole: Which con-
flict indureth ſo long, and is fostred with aboundaunce of cor-
rupt putrified Humors, and vnkauoured groſſe infected mat-
ter, that it muſt needes (as well, or rather as ill, as in mens
and womens bodyes) burſt out in the ende into one perillous
diſeaſe or other, and ſometime, for want of Naturall voyding
ſuch kenerous, and flatuous Spirites, as lurke within, into
ſuch a violent chill ſhiuering ſhaking Ague, as euen nowe
you ſee the Earth haue. Which Ague, or rather euery fitte
therof, we ſchollers call groſſely, and homely, *Terræ motus*, a
mouing, or ſturring of the Earth, you Gentlewemen, that

be

be learned, somewhat more finely, and daintily, *Terræ metus*, a feare, and agony of the Earth: we being onely mœued, and not terrified, you being onely in a manner terrified, & scarcely mœued therewith. Nowe here, (and it please you) lyeth the poynt, and quiddities of the controuersie, whether our *Motus*, or your *Metus*, be the better, & more consonant to the Principles and Maximes of Philosophy: the one being manly, and deuoyde of dreade, the other womannish, and most wofully quiuering, and shiuering for very feare. In soth, I vse not to dissemble with Gentlewomen: I am flatly of Opinion, the Earth whereof man was immediately made, and not woman, is in all proportions and similitudes liker vs than you, and when it fortuneth to be distempered, and diseased, either in part, or in whole, I am persuaded, and I beleeue Reason, and Philosophy will beare me out in it, it only mœueth with the very impulsiue force of the malady, and not trembleth, or quaketh for dastardly feare.

Nowe, I beseeche you, what thinke ye, Gentlewomen, by this Reason? Reason, quoth Madame Incredula: By my truly, I can neither picke out Rime, nor Reason, out of any thing I haue heard yet. And yet me thinkes all should be Gospell, that commeth from you Doctors of Cambridge. But I see well, all is not Gould, that glisteneth. In deede, quoth Mistresse Inquisitiua, heere is much adoe, I trowe, and little helpe. But it pleaseth Master H. (to delight himselfe, and these Gentlemen) to tell vs a trim gawdy Tale of Robinhood, I knowe not what. Or sure if this be Gospell, I dowte, I am not in a good beleefe. Trust me truly, Syr your Eloquence farre passeth my Intelligence. Did I not tell you aforehand, quoth I, as muche? And yet would you needes presume of your Capacities in such profound mysteries of Philosophie, and Pursuities of Nature, as these be? The very thinking whereof, (vnlesse happily it be *per fidem implicitam*, in beleeuing, as the learned beleeue, And saying, It is so, because it is so) is nighe enough, to caste you both into a fitte, or two, of a daungerous shaking feauer, vnlesse you presently

ſæke ſome remedie to prevent it. And in earneſt, if ye wyll giue me leaue, vpon that ſmall ſkill I haue in Extrinſecall, and Intrinſecall Phyſiognomie, & ſo forth, I will wager all the money in my poore purſe to a pottle of Hyppocraſe, you ſhall both this night, within ſomwhat leſſe than two howers and a halfe, after ye be layed, Dreame of terrible ſtraunge Agues, and Agonyes as well in your owne prettie bodyes, as in the mightie great body of the Earth. You are very merily diſpoſed, God be prayſed, quoth Miſtreſſe Inquiſitiua, I am glad to ſée you ſo pleaſurable. No doubt, but you are marueilous priuie to our dreames. But I pray you now in a little good earneſt, do you Schollers thinke, that it is the very reaſon in déede, which you ſpake of euen now? There be many of vs, good Miſtreſſe, quoth I, of that opiniõ: wherin I am content to appeale to ỹ knowledge of theſe learned Gentlemen here. And ſome a[illegible]ne, of our fineſt conceited heades defend this Poſitiõ, (a very ſtraũge Parador in my fancie:) ỹ the Earth hauing taken in too much drinke, & as it were ouer lauiſh Cups, (as it hath ſenſibly done in a maner all this Winter paſt) now ſtaggereth, & ræleth, & totteretb, this way and that way, vp & downe, like a drunken man, or woman (when their Alebench Rhetorick cõmes vpon them, & ſpecially the mouing Patheticall figure *Pottypôſis*,) & therefore in this forcible ſort, you lately ſawe, payneth it ſelfe to vomit vp againe, that ſo diſordereth, and diſquieteth the whole body within. And, forſothe, a fewe new Contradictorie fellowes make no more of it, but a certaine vehement, and paſſionate næſing, or ſobbing, or coffing, wherewithall they ſay, and as they ſay, ſay with great Phyſicall, and Naturall Reaſon, The Earth in ſome place, or other, euer lightly after any great, and ſuddayne alteration of weather, or diet, is exceedingly troubled, and payned, as namely this very Time of the yeare, after the extréeme pynching colde of Winter, and agayne in Autumne, after the extréeme parching heate of Sommer. But ſhall I tell you, Miſtreſſe Inquiſitiua? The ſoundeſt Philoſophers in déede, and very déepeſt Secretaries

of

of Nature, holde, if it please you, an other Assertion, and maintayne this for truth: (which at the least wise, of all other sæmeth maruellous reasonable, and is questionlesse farthest off from Heresie:) That as the Earth, vppon it, hath many stately, and boysterous & fierce Creatures, as namely, Men and Women, and diuers Beastes, wherof some one is in maner continually at variaunce and fewde with an other, euermore sæking to be reuenged vpō his enimie, which eft sones breaketh forth into professed and open Hostilitie: and then consequently followe set battels, & mortall warres: wherin the one partie bendeth all the force of his Ordinance and other Martiall furniture against the other: so likewise within it tw, it hath also some, as vengibly and frowardly bent, as for Example, Wormes, and Moules, and Cunnyes, and such other valiauntly highminded Creatures, ỳ Sonnes and daughters of Mars, & Bellona that nurrish ciuill debate, and contrarie factions amongst them selues: which are seldome, or neuer ended tw, without miserable bloudshed, and deadly warre: and then go me their Gunnes lustily off, and the one dischargeth his Pæce coutagiously at the other: and there is suche a Generall dub a dubbe amongst them, and such horrible Thundering on euery syde, and suche a monstrous cruell shaking of one an others Forts and Tassels, that the whole Earth agayne, as at the least, so muche of the Earth, as is ouer, or nære them, is terribly hoysed, and —— —— No more Ands, or Ifs, for Gods sake, quoth the Madame, and this be your great Doctorly learning. Wæ haue euen Enoughe alreadie for our Money: and if you shoulde goe a little farther, I feare mée, you woulde make vs nyghe as stunning as your selfe: and that woulde bæ a great disgrace to the Vniuersitie. Not a whitte, gentle Madame, quoth I., there be of vs, that haue greater store in our bowgets, than we can well occupie our selues, and therefore we are glad as you sée, when by the fauourable, & gratious aspect of some blessed Planet, and specially our Mercury, or your Venus, it is our good Fortune,

to

to lighte on ſuch good frendes, as you, and ſome other good Gentlewomen be, that take pleaſure, & comfort in ſuch good things. Wherat Miſtreſſe Inquiſitiua, laughing right out, and beginning to demaunde I know not what, (me thought, ſhee made, as if it ſhoulde haue been ſome goodly plauſible Ieſt, wherat ſhee is, and takes her ſelfe prettily good:) Well, well, Maſter H. quoth the Gentleman of the houſe, now you haue playde your part ſo cunningly with the Gentlewomen, (as I warrant you ſhall be remembred of Inquiſitiua, when you are gone, and may happely forget her: which I hope, Miſtreſſe Incredula will do ſometyme too, by hir leaue:) I pray you in earneſt, let vs men learne ſome thing of you too: and eſpecially I would gladly heare your Iudgement, and reſolution, whether you counte of Earthquakes, as Naturall, or Supernaturall motions. But the ſhorter, all the better. To whom I made anſwere, in effect, as followeth:

Maſter H^s. ſhort, but ſharpe, and learned Iudgement of Earthquakes.

TRuely Sir, vnder correction, and in my fancie: The Earthquakes themſelues I would ſaye are Naturall: as I verily beleeue the Internall Cauſes therof, are: I meane thoſe two Cauſes, which the Logicians call, the Materiall, and the Formall: Marry, the Externall Cauſes; which are the Efficient and Final, I take rather of the two, to be ſupernaturall. I muſt praye a little leaue to laye open the matter.

The Materiall Cauſe of Earthquakes, (as was ſuperficially touched in the beginning of our ſpeache, and is ſufficiently proued by Ariſtotle in ỳ ſeconde Booke of his *Meteors*) is no doubt great aboundance of wynde, or ſtoare of groſſe and drye vapours, and ſpirites, kept ſhut vp, & as a man would ſaye, emprysoned in the Caues, and Dungeons of the Earth:

which

which winde, or vapors, seeking to be set at libertie, and to get them home to their Naturall lodgings, in a great fume, violently rush out, and as it were, breake prison, which forcible Eruption, and strong breath, causeth an Earthquake. As is excellently, and very liuely expressed of Ouid, as I remember, thus:

Vis fera ventorum cæcis inclusa cauernis,
Exspirare aliquò cupiens, luctataq; frustra
Liberiore frui cælo, cùm carcere Rima
Nulla foret, toto nec pernia flatibus esset,
Extentam tumefecit humum, ceu spiritus oris,
Tendere vesicam solet, and so forth.

The formall Cause, is nothing but the very manner of this same Motion, and shaking of the Earth without: and the violent kinde of striuing, and wrastling of the windes, and Exhalations within: which is, and must nedes be done in this, or that sort, after one fashion, or other. Nowe, syr, touching the other two Causes, which I named Externall: The first immediate Efficient, out of all Question, is God himselfe, the Creatour, and Continuer, and Corrector of Nature, and therefore Supernaturall: whose onely voyce carrieth such a reuerend and terrible Maiestie with it, that the very Earth againe, and highest Mountaines quake & tremble at the sounde and noyse thereof: the text is rife in euery mans mouth: *Locutus est Dominus & contremuit Terra*: howbeit, it is not to be gainesayd, that is holden of all the auncient Naturall Philosophers, and Astronomers, for the principall, or rather sole Efficient, that the Influence, and heate of the Sunne, and Starres, and specially of the three superior Planets, Saturne, Iupiter, and Mars, is a secondarie Instrumentall Efficient of such motions.

The finall, not onely that the wynde shoulde recouer his Naturall place, than which a naturall reasonable man goeth no farther, no not our excellentest profoundest Philosophers themselues: but sometime also, I graunt, to testifie and denounce the secrete wrathe, and indignation of God, or his

ſenſible puniſhment vppon notorious malefactours, or, a threatning Caueat, and forewarning for the inhabitantes, or the like, depending vppon a ſupernaturall Efficient Cauſe, and tending to a ſupernaturall Morall End.

Which End, (for that I knowe is the very poynt, whereon you ſtande) albeit it be acknowledged Supernaturall and purpoſed, as I ſayd, of a ſupernaturall Cauſe, to whom nothing at all is impoſſible, and that can worke ſupernaturally, and myraculouſly without ordinarie meanes, and inferiour cauſes: yet neuertheleſſe is, we ſée, commonly performed, by the qualifying, and conforming of Nature, and Naturall things, to the accompliſhment of his Diuine and incomprehenſible determination. For being, as the olde Philoſophers call him, very Nature ſelfe, or as it hath pleaſed our later ſchoolemen to terme him, by way of diſtinction, *Natura Naturans*, he hath all theſe ſecondarie inferiour thinges, the foure Elementes, all ſenſible, and vnſenſible, reaſonable, and vnreaſonable Creatures, the whole worlde, and whatſoeuer is contayned in the Compas of the worlde, being the workmanſhip of his owne hands, and, as they call them, *Natura naturata*, euer pliable and flexible Inſtrumentes at his Commaundement: to put in execution ſuch Effectes, either ordinarie or extraordinarie, as ſhall ſéeme moſt requiſite to his eternall Prouidence: and now in theſe latter dayes, very ſeldome, or in manner neuer worketh any thing ſo myraculouſly, and extraordinarily, but it may ſenſibly appeare, he vſeth the ſeruice and Miniſterie of his Creatures, in the atchéuing thereof. I denie not, but Earthquakes (as well as many other fearefull Accidentes in the ſame Number,) are terrible ſignes, and, as it were certaine manacing forerunners, and forewarners of the great latter day; and therefore out of controuerſie the more reuerendly to be conſidered vppon: and I acknowledge conſidering the Euentes, and ſequeles, according to the collectiõ and diſcourſe of mans Reaſon, they haue ſéemed to Prognoſticate, and threaten to this, and that Citie, vtter ruyne and deſtruction: to ſuch a Country,

try, a generall plague and pestilence: to an other place, the death of some mightie Potentate or great Prince: to some other Realme or Kingdome, some cruell imminent warres: and sundry the like dreadfull and particular Incidentes, as is notoriously euident by many olde and newe, very famous and notable Historyes to that effect. Which of all other the auncient Romaines, long before the Natiuitie of Christ, did most religiously or rather superstitiously obserue, not without a number of solemne Ceremonies, and Hollydayes for the nonce, euer after any Earthquake, making full account of some such great rufull casualtie or other, as otherwhyles fell out in very deede: and namely, as I remember, the yeare *Ante bellum Sociale*, which was one of the lamentablest, and myserablest warres, that Italy euer sawe: and Plinie, or I knowe not well who, hath such a saying: *Roma nunquam tremuit, vt non futurus aliquis portenderetur insignis Euentus.*

But yet, notwithstanding, dare not I aforehand presume thus farre, or arrogate so much vnto my selfe, as to determine precisely and peremptorily of this, or euery the like singular Earthquake, to be necessarily, and vndoubtedly a supernaturall, and immediate fatall Action of God, for this, or that singular intent, when as I am sure, there may be a sufficient Naturall, eyther necessarie or contingent Cause in the very Earth it selfe: and there is no question, but the selfe same Operation in *Genere*, or in *specie*, may at one tyme, proceeding of one Cause, and referred to one End, be preternaturall, or supernaturall: at another tyme, proceeding of an other, or the same Cause, and referred to an other End, but Ordinarie, and Naturall. To make shorte, I cannot see, and would gladly learne, howe a man on Earth, should be of so great authoritie, and so familiar acquaintance with God in Heauen, (vnlesse haply for the nonce he hath lately intertained some few choice singular ones of his priuie Counsell) as to be able in such specialties, without any iustifyable certificate, or warrant) to reueale hys incompre-

 hen-

hensible mysteries, and definitiuely to giue sentence of his Maiesties secret and inscrutable purposes. As if they had a key for all the lockes in Heauen, or as if it were as cleare and resolute a case, as the Eclipse of the Sunne, that darkened all the Earth, or at the least all the Earth in those Countries, at Christes Passion, happening altogether prodigiously and Metaphysically in *Plenilunio*, not according to the perpetuall course of Nature, in *Nouilunio*: in so much that Dionisius Areopagita, or some other graunde Philosopher, vpon the suddayne contemplation thereof, is reported in a certaine Patheticall Ecstasie to haue cryed out, *Aut rerum Natura patitur, aut Mundi machina destruetur*: as my minde giueth me, some of the simpler, and vnskilfuller sort, will goe nye to doe vpon the present sight, and agony of this Earthquake. Marry the Errour I graunt, is the more tollerable, though perhappes it be otherwhiles, (and why not euen nowe,) a very presumptuous Errour in déede, standing only vpon these two weake and deceitfull groundes, Credulitie and Ignoraunce: if so be inwardly (not onely in Externall shewe, after an Hypocriticall, and Pharisaicall manner) it certainly doo vs good for our reformation, and amendment, and séeme to preache vnto vs, *Pænitentiam agite*, (as in some respect euery suche straunge and rare Accident may séeme:) how Ordinarie, and Naturall so euer the Cause shall appeare otherwise to the best learned: especially, as the Earthquake shall be knowne to endure a longer, or a shorter Tyme, or to be more or lesse generall, in more, or fewer places. Which two differences, touching the quantitie of Tyme, and Place, after I had a little more fully prosecuted, alledging certaine particuler Examples thereof, howe in some places huge Castels, in some Townes, in some great and mightie Cities, in some Shires and Seigniories, and Prouinces, in some whole Countryes, and Regions haue béen perillously mooued and shaken therewith: in one place, a long time together: in an other place, not so long, or at seuerall and parted times: in another, very short, as, God be thanked here euen nowe: and finally by the

way,

way, shewing a thirde and most notable difference of all, (as well for the present or imminent terrour and daunger, as otherwise) by the sundry *species*, and formes which Aristotle, Plinie, and other Meteorologicians haue set downe of Experience, as they haue heard, or read, or sẽn the earth to quake, to sturre, and hoyse vp Houses, Walles, Towers, Castelles, Churches, Minsters, whole Townes, whole Cities, whole Prouinces, without farther harme: to ruinate and ouerthrowe, and destroy some: to yawne and gape, and open lyke a graue, and consequently to swallow vp and deuour other: and sometime also to drinke vp whole riuers, and mightie bigge running waters withall, or to chaunge and alter their common wonted course some other way: to sinke and fall downewardes: to cast out and vomitte vp either huge waste heapes, as it were Mountaines of Earth, or large Ilandes in the mayne Sea, neuer remembred, or sẽn before: or great ouerflowing waters, and fountaynes: or hotte scalding sulphurous lakes: or burning sparkles and flames of fire: to make a horrible hissing, gnashing, ratling, or some like wonderfull straunge noyse, (which all Effectes are credibly reported, and constantly auouched, of our most famous & best allowed Philosophers) a fewe such particularities, and distinctions, compendiously and familiarly coursed ouer. The good Gentleman gaue me hartily, as appeared, very great thankes, and tolde me plainly, he neuer either read, or heard halfe so much of Earthquakes before: confessing withall, that he yẽlded resolutely to my opinion: that an Earthquake might as well be supposed a Naturall Motion of the Earth, as a preternaturall, or supernaturall ominous worke of God: and that he thought it hard, and almost impossible, for any man, either by Philosophie, or Diuinitie, euermore to determine flatly the very certaintie either way. Which also in conclusion was the verdit, and finall resolution of the greater and sager part of the Gentlemen present: & namely of an auncient learned common Lawyer, that had bẽn Graduate, and fellow of a Colledge in Cambridge, in Quẽne

Maries dayes. Who toke vpon him, to knit vp the matter, & as he said, determine the controuersie, with the authoritie of all the naturall Philosophers, old or newe, Heathen or Christian, Catholique or Protestant, that euer he read, or heard tell of. There Physickes quoth he, are in euery mans hands: they are olde enough to speake for them selues, and wee are young enough to turne our Bookes. They that haue Eyes and Tongues, let them see, and reade. But what say you nowe, quoth I, to the staying and quieting of the Earthe, beeing once a mouing? May it not seeme a more myraculous worke, and greater wonderment, that it shoulde so suddainely staye againe, being moued, than that it shoulde so suddainely moue, beyng quiet and still? Moue or turne, or shake me a thing in lyke order, be it neuer so small, and lesse than a pynnes head, in comparison of the great mightie circuite of the Earth, and see if you shall not haue much more a do to staye it presently, beeing once sturred, than to sturre it at the very first. Whereat the Gentleman smyling, and loking merrily on the Gentlewomen, heere is a schoole poynt, quoth he, that by your leaues, I beleeue will poase the better scholler of you both. But is it not more than tyme, thynke ye, wee were at Supper? And if you be a hungered, Maister H. you shall thanke no body but your selfe, that haue holden vs so long with your profounde and clerkly discourses, whereas our manner is to suppe at the least a long howre before this tyme. Beyng set, and newe occasion of speeche ministered, our Supper put the Earthquake in manner out of our myndes, or at the least wise, out of our Tongues: sauing that the Gentlewomen, nowe and then pleasauntly tyhyhing betweene them selues, especially Mystresse Inquisitiua, (whose minde did still runne of the drinking, and Neesing of the Earth,) repeated here, and there, a broken peece of that, which had bin already sayde before Supper. With deepe iudgement no doubt, and to maruellous great purpose, I warrant you after the manner of women Philosophers, and Diuines.

And

And this ſummarily in Effect was our yeſternyghtes graue Meteorologicall Conference, touching our Earthquake here in the Country: which being in ſo many neighbour Townes, and Villages about vs, as I heare ſay of this morning, maketh me preſuppoſe, the like was wyth you alſo at London, and elſewhere farther of. And then forſothe, muſt I deſire Maiſter Immerito, to ſend me within a wæke or two, ſome odde freſh paulting threehalfepennie Pamphlet for newes: or ſome Balductum Tragicall Ballet in Ryme, and without Reaſon, ſetting out the right myſerable, and moſt woſull eſtate of the wicked, and damnable worlde at theſe perillous dayes, after the deuiſers beſt manner: or whatſoeuer elſe ſhall firſt take ſome of your braue London Eldertons in the Head. In earneſt, I could wiſhe ſome learned, and well aduized Uniuerſitie man, woulde vndertake the matter, and beſtow ſome paynes in dæde vppon ſo famous and materiall an argument. The generall Nature of Earthquakes by definition, and the ſpeciall diuerſitie of them by diuiſion, beyng perfectly knowen: (a thing ſone done) and a complete Induction of many credible and autenticall, both olde and newe, diuine and prophane, Græke, Lattine, and other Examples, (with diſcretion, and iudgement, compyled and compared togither) being conſiderately and exactly made, (a thing not ſo eaſily done) much no doubt myght be alledged too or fro, to terrifie or pacifie vs, more or leſſe. If it appeare by generall Experience, and the forſayde Hiſtoricall Induction of particulars, that Earthquakes, *ſine omni exceptione*, are ominous, and ſignificatiue Effectes, as they ſaye of Comets, and carrie euer ſome Tragicall and horrible matter with or after them: as eyther deſtruction of Townes and Cities, or decay of ſome mightie Prince, or ſome particular, or generall plague, warre, or the lyke, (*vt ſupra*) whatſoeuer the Materiall, or Formall cauſe be, Natural, or ſupernaturall, (howbeit for myne owne part I am reſolued, as wel for the one, as for the other,

that

that these two I speake of, both Matter and Fourme, are rather Naturall in both, than otherwise) it concerneth vs, vpon the bewe of so Effectuall and substaunciall euidence, to conceiue seriously, and reuerently of the other two Causes: the first, supreme Efficient, whose Omnipotent Maiestie hath nature self, and all naturall Creatures at commaundement: and the last finall, which we are to iudge of as aduisedly, and prouidently, as possibly we can, by the consideration, & comparison of Circumstances, the tyme when: the place where: the qualities, and dispositions of the persons, amongst whom such, and such an Ominous token is giuen. Least happily through ouer great credulitie, and rashnesse, we mistake *Non causam pro causa*, and sophistically be entrapped *Elencho Finiũ*. Truely, I suppose, he had nede be an excellent Philosopher, a reasonable good Historian, a learned Diuine, a wise discrete man, and generally, such a one as our Doctor Still, & Doctor Byng are in Cambridge, that shoulde shew himselfe accordingly in this argument, and to the iudgement and contentation of the wisest, perfourme it exactly. My selfe remember nothing to the contrarie, either in Philosophie, or in Historics, or in Diuinitie either, why I may not safely & lawfully subscribe to the iudgement of the noble Italian Philosopher, and most famous learned Gentleman, whilest he liued, Lord of Mirandola, and Erle of Concordia, Counte Ioannes Franciscus Picus, in my opinion, very considerately, and partly Philosophically, partly Theologically set downe, in the first Chapter of his first Booke, against Cogging deceitfull Astrologers, and Southsayers, *De rerum Prænotione, pro veritate Relligionis, contra Superstitiosas vanitates.* In which Chapter, (if happely you haue not read it already,) you shall finde many, but specially these three notable places, most effectuall and directly pertinent to the very purpose. The first more vniuersall. *Naturæ opere fieri non potest, vt Ostentis, vt Monstris magni illi, seu dextri, seu sinistri euentus portendantur, & ab aliqua pendeant proxima causa, quæ & futura etiam proferat. Impostura Dæmonum, vt id fiat, videri potest. Sed & plaraq; non monstrosa,*

non

non prodigiosa per sese, pro monstris tamen, & portentis, haberi possunt, & solent à quibusdam, quibus Rerum Natura non satis comperta est, causarum enim ignoratio, noua in re Admirationem parit. Propter quam, philosophari homines capisse, in exordys prima philosophia scribit Aristoteles. Wherein those two seuerall points, *Impostura Dæmonum*, and *Ignoratio causarum*, are no doubt marueilous probable, and moste worthy bothe presently to bée noted nowe, and more fully to be discussed hereafter: appearing vnto me the verie right principall Causes of so manye erroneous opinions, and fantasticall superstitious dreames in this, and the like behalfe.

The seconde more speciall, as it were hitting the white in déede, and cleauing the Pinne in sunder.

Idem in Terræmotibus etiam, quod in fulguribus, fulminibusq; interpretandis, obseruauit Antiquitas. Cuius Rei liber, Græco eloquio, nuper ad manus peruenit, in Orpheum relatus Autorem: sed per absurdum nimis, vt quod frequentissimè fit, pro vario terræ anhelitu, pro ventorum volentia, vaporumq; conductione, (marke you that:) *ex eo rerum futurarum significationem petere, quorum nec effectus esse possunt, nec causa, præterq; forte mortis inferendæ illis, qui fulmen exceperit, aut qui terrarum hiatu perierit. Sed nec ab eadem proxima deduci causa possunt, à qua & futuræ pendeant res, vt supra deductum est.*

And then shortly after, the thirde, moste agréeable to the seconde, as flatlye determining on my side, and as directlye concluding the same position as may be.

Nec sanè Orpheus ille, si tamen Orpheus fuit, vllam affert omninò causam, cur quispiam ex terræ motibus, vrbium, hominum, regionum euenta præsagire possit. Solùm vanè narrat arbitrio: si terræ contigerit motus, nocti, si æstate, si hyeme, si aurora, si interdiu, quid portendatur: Quæ certè, & saniore possunt arbitrio refelli, & Experientiæ testimonio, vt arbitror, non secus irrideri, ac supra Tagis portenta irrisimus, Haruspicinæ Autoris.

A moste excellent sounde Judgement in my conceit: and ful wel beséeming so Honorable and admirable a Witte, as out of Question, *Picus Mirandula* had: who being yet scarce-

ly thirty yeres of age, for his singularitie in al kind of knowleege, as wel diuine as prophane, was in Italy and France, as Paulus Iouius reporteth, surnamed Phœnix, as the odde, and in effecte the onely singular learned man of Europe: and to make shorte: suche a one, in moste respectes, as I woulde wisshe nowe to be tempering with this newe notorious incident: staying my selfe in the meane while vpon this probable and reasonable *Interim* of his: and preferring it before al the friuolous coniecturall Allegations, and surmises, that euer counterfaite, and reasonlesse *Orphei* oppose to the contrarye. But, Iesu, what is all this to Master Immerito? For sothe I know not by what mischaunce, these miserable balde odious three halfepenny fellowes, alas, a company of silly bœtleheaded Asses, came into my minde, that wil nedes be sturring, and taking on in euerye suche rare and vnaccustomed euent, as if they sawe farther in a Milstone, than all the worlde besides, whereas euerie man, that hathe but halfe an eye in his head, seeth them to be more blinde, than anye Buzzarde, or Bayarde, *Scribimus indocti, doctiq; Poemata passim*, and surely, as the worlde goeth nowe in Englande, rather the firste, for aught I see, than the laste. *O interim miseras Musas, & miserabiles*: Where the faulte shoulde rest, *viderint Oculi, at q; capita Reip. Mihi quidem ist hic, neq; seritur admodum, neq; metitur. Non valde mea nouos Bibliotheca libros desiderat, seipsa, id est, quos habet, veteribus contenta est. Quid plura? Tu vale, mi Immerito, at q; ita tibi persuade, Aliquid esse eum, qui istorum longè est dissimilimus, quos Typographi nostri habent venales maximè.* Commende mee to thine owne good selfe, and tell thy dying Pellicane, and thy Dreames from me, I wil nowe leaue dreaming any longer of them, til with these eyes I see them forth indede: And then againe, I imagine your Magnificenza, will holde vs in suspense as long for your nine Englishe Commœdies, and your Latine *Stemmata Dudleiana*: whiche two shal go for my money, when all is done: especiallye if you woulde but bestowe one seuennights polishing and trimming vppon eyther. Whiche I praye thee hartily doe, for my pleasure, if not for

their

their sake, not thine owne profite. My Schollers Loue, or Reconcilement of contraries, is shrunke in the wetting: I hadde purposed to haue dispatched you a Coppie thereof, long ere this: but, no remedie, hitherto it hath alwayes gone thus with me: Some newe occasion, or other, euer carrieth me from one matter to another, & will neuer suffer me to finishe eyther one or other. And truly, *Experto crede*, it is as true a Verse as euer was made, since the first Verse, that euer was made: *Pluribus intentus minor est ad singula sensus*: whiche my *Anticosmopolita*, thoughe it grieue him, can beste testifye, remayning still as we saye, *in statu, quo*, and neither an inche more forward, nor backewarde, than he was fully a twelue-month since in the Courte, at his laste attendaunce vpon my Lorde there. But the Birde that will not sing in Aprill, nor in May, maye peraduenture sing in September; and yet me thinkes, *Sat citò, si sat bene*, if I coulde steale but one poore fortnight, to peruse him ouer afreshe, and coppy him out a-newe. Whiche I hope in God to compasse shortly. But I beseech you, what Newes al this while at Cambridge: That was wont to be euer one great Question. What? *Det mihi Mater ipsa bonam veniam, eius vt aliqua mihi liceat Secreta, vni cuidam de eodem gremio obsequentissimo filio, reuelare: & sic paucis habeto. Nam aliàs fortasse pluribus: nunc non placet, non vacat, molestum esset.* Tully, and Demosthenes nothing so much studyed, as they were wonte: Liuie, and Salust possiblye rather more, than lesse: Lucian neuer so much: Aristotle muche named, but little read: Xenophon and Plato, reckned amongest Discoursers, and conceited Superficiall fellowes: much verball and sophisticall iangling: little subtile and effectuall disputing; noble and royall Eloquence, the best and persuasiblest Eloquence: no such Orators againe, as redheadded Angelles: An exceeding greate difference, betweene the countenaunces, and portes of those, that are braue and gallaunt, and of those, that are basely, or meanly apparelled: betweene the learned, and vnlearned, Tully, and Tom Tooly, in effect none at all.

Matchiauell a great man: Castilio of no small reputation: Petrach, and Boccace in euery mans mouth: Galateo and Guazzo neuer so happy: ouer many acquainted with Vlnico Aretino: The French and Italian when so highlye regarded of Scholiers? The Latine and Greeke, when so lightly? The Queene mother at the beginning, or ende of euerye conference: many bargaines of Mounsieur: Shymeirs a noble gallant fellowe: all inquisitiue after Newes, newe Bookes, newe Fashions, newe Lawes, newe Officers, and some after newe Elementes, and some after newe Heauens, and Helles to. Turkishe affaires familiarly knowen: Castels builded in the Ayre: muche adoe, and little helpe: Iacke would faine be a Gentlemanne: in no age so little so muche made of, euery one highly in his owne fauour, thinking no mans penny, so good siluer as his own: Something made of Nothing, in spite of Nature: Numbers made of Ciphars, in spite of Arte: Geometricall Proportion seldome, or neuer vsed, Arithmeticall ouermuch abused: Oxen and Asses (notwithstanding the absurditie it seemed to Plautus) draw both togither in one, and the same Yoke: *Conclusio ferè sequitur deteriorem partem*. The Gospell taughte, not learned: Charitie key colde: nothing good, but by Imputation: the Ceremoniall Lawe, in worde abrogated: the Iudiciall in effecte disanulled: the Morall indede abandoned: the Lighte, the Lighte in euery mans Lippes, but marke me their eyes, and tell me, if they loke not liker Howlets, or Battes, than Egles: as of olde Bookes, so of auntient Vertue, Honestie, Fidelitie, Equitie, newe Abridgementes: euery day freshe span newe Opinions: Heresie in Diuinitie, in Philosophie, in Humanitie, in Manners, grounded muche vpon heresay: Doctors contemned: the Text knowen of moste, vnderstood of fewe, magnified of all, practised of none: the Diuell not so hated, as the Pope: many Inuectiues, small amendment: Skill they say controlled of Will: and Goodnesse mastered of Gods: but Agent, and Patient muche alike, neither Barrell greatly better Herring: No more adoe aboute Cappes

and

and Surpleſſes: Maiſter Cartwright nighe forgotten: The man you wot of, conformable, with his ſquare Cappe on his rounde heade: and Non reſident at pleaſure: and yet Non-reſidents neuer better bayted, but not one the fewer, either I beléeue in Aae, or I beléeue, in Purpoſe. A nũber of our preachers ſibbe to French Souldiors, at the firſt, more than Men, in the end, leſſe than Women. Some of our pregnanteſt and ſoneſt ripe Wits, of Hermogenes mettall for al the world: Olde men and Counſailours amongſt Children: Children amongſt Counſailours, and olde men: Not a fewe dubble faced Iani, and chaungeable Camelions: ouer-manye Clawbackes, and Pickethanks: Rédes ſhaken of euerie Wind: Jackes of bothe ſides: Aſpen leaues: painted Sheathes, and Sepulchres: Aſſes in Lions ſkins: Dunglecockes: ſlipperye Eles: Dormiſe: I bluſh to thinke of ſome, that wéne themſelues as fledge as the reſte, being, God wot, as kallowe as the reſt: euery ponker to ſpeake of as politique, and as great a Commonwealths man as Biſhoppe Gardner, or Doctor Wutton at the leaſt: as if euerie man nowe adayes hauing the framing of his own Horoſcope, were borne in *decimo cœli domicilio*, and had al the Wit, Wiſedome, and Worſhippe in the world at commaundement. *Sed heus in aurem: Meminiſtin' quod ait Varro? Omnes videmur nobis eſſe belli, feſtiui, ſaperdæ, cùm ſumus Canopi:* Dauid, Vliſſes, and Solon, fayned themſelues fooles and madmen: our fooles and madmen faine thẽſelues Dauids, Vliſſes, and Solons: and would goe nigh to deceiue the cunningeſt, and beſt experienced Metaposcopus in a country: It is pity faire weather ſhould euer do hurt, but I know what peace and quietnes hath done with ſome melancholy pickſtrawes in the world: as good vnſpoken as vnamẽded. And wil you néedes haue my Teſtimoniall of youre olde Controllers new behauior? A buſy and dizy heade, a brazen forehead: a leaden braine: a wodden wit: a copper face: a ſtony breaſt: a factious and elviſh hearte: a founder of noueltics: a confounder of his owne, and his friends good gifts: a morning bookeworm, an afternoone maltworm: a right Juggler,

as ful of his sleights, wyles, fetches, casts of Legerdemaine, toyes to mocke Apes withal, odde shiftes, and knauish practizes, as his skin can holde. He often telleth me, he loueth me as himselfe, but out lyar out, thou lyest abhominably in thy throate. Iesu, I had nigh hand forgotten one thing, that ywis somtime I think often ynough vpon: Many Pupils, Iackemates, and Hayle fellowes wel met, with their Tutors, and by your leaue, some two, because forsoth they be Gentlemen, or great heires, or a little neater and gayer than their fellowes, (shall I say it for shame? beleeue me, tis too true) their very own Tutors. *Ah mala* Licentia, *ab initio nõ fuit sic. Stulta est omnis iuuenilis* Doctrina, *sine virili quadam* Disciplina. *Quasi verò pauperioribus duntaxat pueris, ac non multò magis generosa, atq; nobili Iuuentuti conueniat, pristina illius Institutionis, atque Educationis seueritas, & ingenua, & prudentis, & erudita, & cum Tutoris persona, tum pupillo, etiam ipsi perquam accomodata. Vsquequaque* sapere oportet: *id erit telum acerrimum. Cetera farè, vt olim: Bellum inter Capita, & membra continuatum:* Σοφοσοφία *publicis defensa scholis, priuatis confirmata parietibus, omnibus locis ostentata,* Scire tuum *nihil est, nisi te scire, hoc sciat alter. Plurimi passim sit* Pecunia, Pudor *parui penditur: Nihili habentur* Literæ: *Mihi crede,* credendum nulli: *O amice,* amicus nemo. *Quid tu interim? Quomodo te inquies, geris? Quomodo? Optimum est alienа frui insania. Video: taceo, rideo: Dixi. Et tamen addam, quod ait Satyricus ille:*

Viuendum est rectè, tum propter plurima, tum his
Præcipuè causis, vt linguas Mancipiorum Contemnas.

E meo municipio, Postridie quàm superiores de Terræmotu *sermones haberentur, id est, ni fallor, Aprilis septimo, Vesperi.* With as manye gentle Goodnightes, as be letters in this tedious Letter. *Nosti manum tanquam tuam.*

POSTSCRIPTE.

This Letter may only be shewed to the two odde Gentlemen you wot of. Murry I would haue those two to see it, as sone as you may conueniently. *Non multis dormio: non a multis scribo: non cupio placere multis: Alij alios numeros laudant, præferunt, venerantur: Ego ferè apud nos, ferè apud vos* Trinitatem. *Verbum sapienti sat: nosti cætera: & tres Charites habes ad vnguem.*

A Gallant familiar Letter, containing an Answere to that of M. Immerito, with sundry proper examples, and some Precepts of our English reformed Versifying.

To my very friend *M. Immerito.*

Ignor Immerito, to passe ouer youre needelesse complaint, wyth the residue of your preamble (for of ỹ Earthquake I presuppose you haue ere this receyued my goodly discourse) and withall to let my lase English Hexametres goe as lightlye as they came: I cannot chose, but thanke and honour the good Aungell, (whether it were Gabriell or some other) that put so good a motion into the heads of those two excellent Gentlemen M. Sidney, and M. Dyer, the two very Diamondes of hir Maiesties Courte for many speciall and rare qualities: as to helpe forwarde our new famous enterprise for the Exchanging of Barbarous and Baluctum Rymes with Artificial Verses: the one being in manner of pure and fine Goulde, the other but counterfet, and base yfauoured Copper. I doubt not but their liuelie example, and Practise, wil preuaile a thousand times more in short space, than the dead Aduertizement, and persuasion of M. Ascham to the same Effecte: whose Scholemaister notwithstanding I reuerence in respect of so learned a Motiue. I would gladly be acquainted with M. Drants Prosodye, and I beseeche you, commende me to good M. Sidneys iudgement, and gentle

M. Imme-

M. Immeritos Obſeruations. I hope your nexte Letters, which I daily exſpect, wil bring me in farther familiaritie & acquaintance with al thée. Mine owne Rules and Precepts of Arte, I beléeue wil fal out not greatly repugnant, though peraduenture ſomewhat different: and yet am I not ſo reſolute, but I can be content to reſerue the Coppying out and publiſhing therof, vntil I haue a little better conſulted with my pillowe, and taken ſome farther aduize of Madame Sperienza. In the meane, take this for a general Caueat, and ſay I haue reuealed one great myſterie vnto you: I am of Opinion, there is no one more regular and iuſtifiable direction, eyther for the aſſured, and infallible Certaintie of our Engliſh Artificiall Proſodye particularly, or generally to bring our Language into Arte, and to frame a Grammer or Rhetorike thereof: than firſt of all vniuerſally to agrée vpon one and the ſame Ortographie, in all pointes conformable and proportionate to our Common Natural Proſodye: whether Sir Thomas Smithes in that reſpect be the moſt perfit, as ſurely it muſt néedes be very good: or elſe ſome other of profounder Learning, & longer Experience, than Sir Thomas was, ſhewing by neceſſarie demonſtration, wherin he is defectiue, wil vndertake ſhortely to ſupplie his wantes, and make him more abſolute. My ſelfe dare not hope to hoppe after him, til I ſée ſomething or other, two, or fro, publickely and autentically eſtabliſhed, as it were by a generall Counſel, or acte of Parliament: and then peraduenture, ſtanding vppon firmer grounde, for Companie ſake, I may aduenture to do as other do. *Interim*, credit me, I dare geue no Preceptes, nor ſet downe any Certaine General Arte: and yet ſée my boldenelle, I am not greatly ſquaimiſhe of my Particular Examples, whereas he that can but reaſonably skil of the one, wil giue eaſily a ſhrewde gelle at the other: conſidering that the one fetcheth his original and offſpring from the other. In which reſpecte, to ſay troth, we Beginners haue the ſtart, and aduauntage of our Followers, who are to frame and conforme both their Examples, and Precepts, according to that

Preſ-

Preſident which they haue of vs: as no doubt Homer or ſome other in *Greeke*, and Ennius, or I know not who elſe in *Latine*, did preiudice, and ouerrule thoſe, that followed them, as well for the quantities of ſyllables, as number of fæte, and the like: their onely Examples going for current payment, and ſtanding in ſteade of Lawes, and Rules with the poſteritie. In ſo much that it ſæmed a ſufficient warrant (as ſtill it doth in our Common Grammer ſchooles) to make τι in ζμὴ, and ῦ, in *Vnus* long, becauſe the one hath τίμὴ δ' ἐκδίος ἐσὶ, and the other, *Vnus homo nobis*, and ſo conſequently in the reſt. But to let this by-diſputation paſſe, which is already ſo throughly diſcourſed and cannalled of the beſt Philoſophers, and namely Ariſtotle, that poynt vs, as it were with the forefinger, to the very fountaines and head ſpringes of Artes, and Artificiall preceptes, in the Analitiques, and Metaphyſikes: moſt excellently ſet downe in theſe foure Golden Termes, the famouſſeſt Termes to ſpeake of in all Logique and Philoſophie, ἐμπειρία, ἱσορία, ἄιδησις ἐπαγωγὴ: ſhall I nowe by the way ſende you a Ianuarie gift in Aprill: and as it were ſhewe you a Chriſtmas Gambowlde after Eaſter? Were the manner ſo very fine, as the matter is very good, I durſt preſume of an other kinde of *Plaudite* and Gramercie, than now I will: but being as it is, I beſæche you, ſet partialitie aſide, and tell me your maiſterſhips fancie.

A Newv yeeres Gift to my old friend Maiſter

George Bilchaunger: In commendation of three moſt precious
Accidentes, *Vertue*, *Fame*, and *Wealth*: and finally of
the fourth, *A good Tongue*.

Vertue ſendeth a man to *Renowme*, *Fame* ſendeth *Aboundaunce*,
Fame with Aboundaunce maketh a man thriſe bleſſed and happie.
So the Rewarde of Famous Vertue makes many wealthy,
And the Regard of Wealthie Vertue makes many bleſſed:
O bleſſed Vertue, bleſſed Fame, bleſſed Aboundaunce,
O that I had you three, with the loſſe of thirtie Comencementes.

Nowe farewell *Miſtreſſe*, whom lately I loued aboue all,
Theſe be my three bonny laſſes, theſe be my three bonny Ladyes,
Not the like *Trinitie* againe, ſaue onely the Trinitie aboue all:
Worſhip and Honour, firſt to the one, and then to the other.
A thouſaud good leaues be for euer graunted *Agrippa*.
For ſquibbing and declayming againſt many fruitleſſe
Artes, and Craftes, deuiſde by the *Diuls and Sprites*, for a torment,
And for a plague to the world: as both *Pandora*, *Prometheus*,
And that curſed *good bad Tree*, can teſtifie at all times.
Meere Gewegawes and Bables, in compariſon of theſe.
Toyes to mock Apes, and Woodcockes, in compariſon of theſe.
Iugling caſtes, and knicknackes, in compariſon of theſe.
Yet behinde there is one thing, worth a prayer at all tymes,
A good Tongue, in a mans Head, *A good Tongue* in a woomans.
And what ſo precious matter, and foode for a good Tongue,
As bleſſed Vertue, bleſſed Fame, bleſſed Aboundaunce.

L' Enuoy.

Maruell not, what I meane to ſend theſe Verſes at Euenſong:
On *Neweyeeres* Euen, and Oldyeeres End, as a *Memento*:
Truſt me, I know not a ritcher Iewell, newiſh or oldiſh,
Than bleſſed Vertue, bleſſed Fame, bleſſed Abundaunce,
O bleſſed Vertue, bleſſed Fame, bleſſed Aboundaunce,
O that you had theſe three, with the loſſe of *Fortie Valetes*,

He that wiſheth, you may liue to ſee a hundreth Good Newe yeares, euery one happier, and merrier, than other.

Now to requite your Blindfolded pretie God, (wherin by the way I woulde gladly learne, why, *Thē*, in the firſt, *Yĕ* in the firſt, and thirde, *Hĕ*, and *My*, in the laſt, being ſhorte, *Mē*, alone ſhould be made longer in the very ſame) Imagin me to come into a goodly Rentiſhe *Garden* of your old Lords, or ſome other Noble man, and ſpying a flouriſhing Bay Trée there, to demaunde *ex tempore*, as followeth: Thinke vppon Petrarches

Arbor vittorioſa, tiromfale,
Onor d' Imperadori, e di Poete:

and perhappes it will aduaunce the wynges of your Imagination a degrée higher: at the leaſt if any thing can be added

ded to the loftineſſe of his conceite, who gentle Miſtreſſe Roſalinde, once reported to haue all the Intelligences at commaundement, and an other time, Chriſtened her,

Segnior Pegaſo.

Encomium Lauri.

WAat might I call this Tree? *A Laurell*? O bonny Laurell:
Needes to thy bowes will I bow this knee, and vayle my bonetto:
Who, but thou, the renowne of Prince, and Princely *Poeta*:
Th'one for Crowne, for Garland th'other thanketh *Apollo*.
Thrice happy *Daphne*: that turned was to the *Bay Tree*,
Whom ſuch ſeruauntes ſerue, as challenge ſeruice of all men.
Who chiefe Lorde, and King of Kings, but th'*Emperour* only?
And *Poet* of right ſtampe, ouerawith th'*Emperour* himſelfe.
Who, but knowes *Aretyne*, was he not halfe Prince to the Princes.
And many a one there liues, as nobly minded at all poyntes.
Now Farewell *Bay Tree*, very Queene, and Goddeſſe of all trees,
Ritcheſt perle to the Crowne, and fayreſt Floure to the Garland.
Faine wod I craue, might I ſo preſume, ſome farther aquaintaunce,
O that I might? but I may not: woe to my deſtinie therefore.
Truſt me, not one more loyall ſeruaunt longes to thy Perſonage,
But what ſayes *Daphne*? *Non omni dormio*, worſe lucke:
Yet Farewell, Farewell, the Reward of thoſe, that I honour:
Glory to *Garden*: Glory to *Muſes*: Glory to *Vertue*.

Partim Ioui, & Palladi,
Partim Apollini & Muſis.

But ſéeing I muſt néedes bewray my ſtore, and ſet open my ſhoppe wyndowes, nowe I pray thée, and coniure thée by all thy amorous Regardes, and Exorciſmes of Loue, call a Parliament of thy Senſible, & Intelligible powers together, & tell me, in Tom Trothes earneſt, what *Il ſecondo, & famoſo Poeta*, Meſſer Immerito, ſayth to this bolde Satyricall Libell lately deuiſed at the inſtaunce of a certayne worſhipfull Hartfordſhyre Gentleman, of myne olde acquayntaunce: *in Gratiam quorundam Illuſtrium* Anglofrancitalorum, *hic & vbique apud nos volitantium. Agedùm verò, noſti homines, tanquam tuam ipſius cutem.*

Speculum Tuſcaniſmi.

Since *Galateo* came in, and *Tuſcaniſme* gan vſurpe,
Vanitie aboue all: Villanie next her, Statelynes Empreſſe.
No man, but Minion, Stowte, Lowte, Plaine, ſwayne, quoth a Lording:
No wordes but valorous, no workes but woomaniſh onely.
For life Magnificoes, not a beck but glorious in ſhew,
In deede moſt friuolous, not a looke but Tuſcaniſh alwayes.
His *cringing ſide necke, Eyes glauncing, Fiſnamie ſmirking,*
With *forefinger kiſſe*, and braue *embrace to the footewarde.*
Largebelled Kodpeaſd Dublet, vnkodpeaſed halfe hoſe,
Straite to the dock, like a ſhirte, and cloſe to the britch, like a diueling.
A little Apiſh Hatte, cowched faſt to the pate, like an Oyſter,
French Camarick Ruffes, deepe with a witneſſe, ſtarched to the purpoſe.
Euery one A per ſe A, his termes, and braueries in Print,
Delicate in ſpeach, queynte in araye: conceited in all poyntes:
In Courtly guyles, a paſsing ſingular odde man,
For Gallantes a braue Myrrour, a Primeroſe of Honour,
A Diamond for nonce, a fellowe pereleſſe in England.
Not the like *Diſcourſer* for Tongue, and head to be found out:
Not the like *reſolute Man*, for great and ſerious affayres,
Not the like *Lynx*, to ſpie out ſecretes, and priuities of States:
Eyed, like to *Argus*, *Eard*, like to *Midas*, *Noſd*, like to *Naſo*,
Wingd, like to *Mercury*, fittſt of a Thouſand for to be employde,
This, nay more than this doth practiſe of *Italy* in one yeare.
None doe I name, but ſome doe I know, that a peece of a tweluemonth:
Hath ſo perfited outly, and inly, both body, both ſoule,
That none for ſenſe, and ſenſes, halfe matchable with them.
A *Vulturs ſmelling, Apes taſting, ſight* of an *Eagle*,
A *ſpiders touching, Hartes hearing, might* of a *Lyon.*
Compoundes of wiſedome, witte, prowes, bountie, behauiour,
All gallant Vertues, all qualities of body and ſoule:
O thrice tenne hundreth thouſand times bleſſed and happy,
Bleſſed and happy *Trauaile, Trauailer* moſt bleſſed and happy.

Penatibus Hetruſcis laribuſque noſtris Inquilinis:

Tell me in good ſoth, doth it not too euidently appeare, that this Engliſh Poet wanted but a good patterne before his eyes, as it might be ſome delicate, and choyce elegant Poeſie of good M. Sidneys, or M. Dyers, (ouer very Caſtor, & Pollux for ſuch and many greater matters) when this trimme geere was in hatching: Much like ſome Gentlewooman, I coulde name in England, who by a'l Phiſick and Phyſiognomie too, might as well haue brought forth all goodly faire children, as

they

they haue now some vilanized and deformed, had they at the tyme of their Conception, had in sight, the amiable and gallant beautifull Pictures of Adonis, Cupido, Ganymedes, or the like, which no doubt would haue wrought such deepe impression in their fantasies, and imaginations, as their children, and perhappes their Childrens children too, myght haue thanked them for, as long as they shall haue Tongues in their heades.

But myne owne leysure fayleth me: and to say troth, I am lately become a maruellous great straunger at myne olde Mistresse Poetries, being newly entertayned, and dayly employed in our Emperour Iustinians seruice (sauing that I haue alreadie addressed a certaine pleasurable, and Morall Politique Naturall mirte deuise, to his most Honourable Lordshippe, in the same kynde, whereunto my next Letter, if you please mee well, may perchaunce make you priuie:) marrie nowe, if it lyke you in the meane while, for varietie sake, to see howe I taske a young Brother of myne, (whom of playne Iohn, our Italian Maister hath Christened his *Picciolo Giouannibattista,*) Lo here (and God will) a peece of hollydayes exercise. In the morning I gaue him this Theame out of Ouid, to translate, and varie after his best fashion.

Dum fueris fœlix, multos numerabis Amicos,
Tempora si fuerint nubila, solus eris.
Aspicis, vt veniant ad candida tecta columbæ?
Accipiat nullas sordida Turris Aues?

His translation, or rather Paraphrase before dinner, was first this:

I.

Whilst your Bearnes are fatte, whilst Cofers stuffd with aboundaunce,
Freendes will abound: If bearne waxe bare, then adieu sir a Goddes name.
See ye the Doones? they breede, and feede in gorgeous Houses:
Scarce one Doone doth loue to remaine in ruinous Houses,

And then forsooth this: to make proofe of his facultie in Pentameters too, affecting a certaine *Rithmus* withall.

2.

Whilst your Ritches abound, your friends will play the *Placeboes*,
If your wealth doe decay, friend, like a feend, will away,
Dooues light, and delight in goodly fairetyled houses:
If your House be but olde, Dooue to remoue be ye bolde.

And the last and largest of all, this:

3.

If so be goods encrease, then dayly encreaseth a goods friend.
If so be goods decrease, then straite decreaseth a goods friend.
Then God night goods friend, who seldome prooueth a good friend,
Giue me the goods, and giue me the good friend, take ye the goods friend.
Douehouse, and Louehouse, in writing differ a letter:
In deede scarcely so much, so resembleth an other an other.
Tyle me the Doouehouse trimly, and gallant, where the like storehouse?
Fyle me the Doouehouse: leaue it vnhansome, where the like poorehouse?
Looke to the Louehouse: where the resort is, there is a gaye showe:
Gynne port, and mony fayle: straight sports and Companie faileth.

Beleeue me, I am not to be charged with aboue one, or two of the Verses: and a foure or fiue wordes in the rest. His afternoones Theame was borrowed out of him, whō one in your Coate, they say, is as much beholding vnto, as any Planet, or Starre in Heauen is vnto the Sunne: and is quoted, as your self best remember, in the Glose of your October.

Giunto Alessandro ala famosa tomba
Del fero Achille, sospirando disse,
O fortunato, che si chiara tromba
Trouasti.

Within an houre, or there aboutes, he brought me these foure lustre Hexameters, altered since not past in a worde, or two.

Noble *Alexander*, when he came to the tombe of *Achilles*,
Sighing spake with a bigge voyce: O thrice blessed *Achilles*;
That such a Trump, so great, so loude, so glorious hast found,
As the renowned, and surprizing *Archpoet Homer*.

Uppon the viewe whereof, Ah my Syrrha, quoth I here is a gallant exercise for you in deede: we haue had a little prettie triall of you Latin, and Italian Translation: Let me see now I pray, what you can doo in your owne Tongue: And with that, reaching a certaine famous Booke, called the

newe

neiue Shephardes Calender: I turned to Willyes, and Thomalins Emblemes, in Marche: and bad him make them eyther better, or worse in English verse. I gaue him an other howres respite: but before I loked for him, he suddainely rushed vpon me, and gaue me his deuise, thus formally set downe in a faire peece of Paper.

1. *Thomalins Embleme.*

Of Honny, and of Gaule in Loue there is store,
The Honny is much, but the Gaule is more.

2. *Willyes Embleme.*

To be wize, and eke to Loue,
Is graunted scarce to God aboue.

3. *Both combined in one.*

Loue is a thing more fell, than full of Gaule, than of Honny,
And to be wize, and Loue, is a worke for a God, or a Goddes peere.

With a small voluntarie Supplement of his owne, on the other side, in commendation of hir most gratious, and thrice excellent Maiestie:

Not the like *Virgin* againe, in Asia, or Afric, or Europe,
For Royall Vertues, for Maiestie, Bountie, Behauiour.

Raptim, vti vides.

In both not passing a worde, or two, corrected by mee. Something more I haue of his; partly that very day begun, and partly continued since: but yet not so perfitly finished, that I dare committe the viewe, and examination thereof, to Messer Immeritoes Censure, whom after those same two incomparable and myraculous Gemini, *Omni exceptione maiores*, I recount, and chaulk vppe in the Catalogue of our very principall Englishe Aristarchi. Howbeit, I am nigh halfe perswaded, that in tyme (*siquidem vltima primis respondeant*) for length, bredth, and depth, it will not come far behinde your *Epithalamion Thamesis*: the rather, hauing so fayre a president, and patterne before his Eyes, as I warrant him, and he presumeth to haue of that: both Master Collinshead, and M. Hollishead too, being togither therein.

But

But euer, & euer, me thinkes your great Catoes, *Ecquid erit pretij*, and our little Catoes, *Res age quæ prosunt*, make suche a buzzing, & ringing in my head, that I haue little ioy to animate, & encourage either you, or him to goe forward, vnlesse ye might make account of some certaine ordinarie wages, at at the leastwise haue your meate, and drinke for your dayes workes. As for my selfe, howsoeuer I haue toyed, and trifled heretofore, I am nowe taught, and I trust I shall shortly learne, (no remedie, I must of mere necessitie giue you ouer in the playne fielde) to employ my trauayle, and tyme wholly, or chiefely on those studies and practizes, that carrie as they saye, meate in their mouth, hauing euermore their eye vppon the Title *De pane lucrando*, and their hand vpon their halfpenny. For, I pray now, what saith M. Cuddie, *alias* you know who, in the tenth Æglogue of the foresaid famous new Calender:

Piers, I haue piped erst so long with payne,
That all myne Oten reedes been rent, and wore,
And my poore Muse hath spent hir spared store,
Yet little good hath got, and much lesse gayne.
Such pleasaunce makes the Grashopper so poore,
And ligge so lavde, when winter doth her strayne.

The Dapper Ditties, that I woont deuize,
To feede youthes fancie, and the flocking fry,
Delighten much: what I the bett for thy?
They han the pleasure, I-a slender prize.
I beate the bushe, the birdes to them doe flye,
What good thereof to Cuddy can arise?

But Master Colin Clout is not euery body, and albeit his olde Companions, Master Cuddy, & Master Hobbinoll be as little beholding to their Mistresse Poetrie, as euer you wist: yet he peraduenture, by the meanes of hir speciall fauour, and some personall priuiledge, may happely liue by dying Pellicanes, and purchase great landes, and Lordshippes, with

with the money, which his Calendar and Dreames haue, and will affourde him. *Extra iocum*, I like your Dreames paſſingly well: and the rather, bicauſe they ſauour of that ſingular extraordinarie veine and inuention, whiche I euer fancied moſte, and in a manner admired onelye in Lucian, Petrarche, Aretine, Paſquill, and all the moſt delicate, and fine conceited Grecians & Italians: (for the Romanes to ſpeake of, are but verye Ciphars in this kinde:) whoſe chiefeſt endeuour, and drifte was, to haue nothing vulgare, but in ſome reſpecte or other, and eſpecially in liuely Hyperbolicall Amplifications, rare, queint, and odde in euery pointe, and as a man woulde ſaye, a degrée or two at the leaſte, aboue the reache, and compaſſe of a common Schollers capacitie. In whiche reſpecte notwithſtanding, as well for the ſingularitie of the manner, as the Diuinitie of the matter, I hearde once a Diuine, preferre Saint Iohns Reuelation before al the verieſt Mætaphyſicall Viſions, & tollyeſt conceited Dreames or Extaſies, that euer were deuiſed by one or other, howe admirable, or ſupererceller ſoeuer they ſéemed otherwiſe to the worlde. And truely I am ſo confirmed in this opinion, that when I bethinke me of the verie notableſt, and moſte wonderful Propheticall, or Poeticall Viſion, that euer I read, or hearde, me ſéemeth the proportion is ſo vnequall, that there hardly appeareth anye ſemblaunce of Compariſon: no more in a manner (ſpecially for Poets) than doth betwéene the incomprehenſible Wiſedome of God, and the ſenſible Wit of Man. But what néedeth this digreſſion betwéene you and me? I dare ſaye you wyll holde your ſelfe reaſonably wel ſatiſfied, if youre Dreames be but as well eſtéemed of in Englande, as Petrarches Viſions be in Italy: whiche I aſſure you, is the very worſt I wiſh you. But, ſée, how I haue the Arte Memoratiue at commaundement. In good faith I had once againe nigh forgotten your Faerie Queene: howbeit by good chaunce, I haue nowe ſent hir home at the laſte, neither in better nor worſe caſe, than I founde hir. And muſt you of neceſſitie haue my Iudgement of hir in déede? To be plaine,

I am voyde of al iudgement, if your Nine Comœdies, wherunto in imitation of Herodotus, you giue the names of the Nine Muſes, (and in one mans fanſie not vnworthily) come not nérer Arioſtoes Comœdies, eyther for the fineneſſe of plauſible Elocution, or the rareneſſe of Poetical Inuention, than that Eluiſh Queene doth to his Orlando Furioſo, which notwithſtanding, you wil nédes ſéeme to emulate, and hope to ouergo, as you flatly profeſſed your ſelf in one of your laſt Letters. Beſides that you know, it hath bene the vſual praiſe of the moſt exquiſite and odde wittes in all nations, and ſpecially in *Italie*, rather to ſhewe, and aduaunce themſelues that way, than any other: as namely, thoſe thrée notorious diſcourſing heads, Bibiena, Machiauel, and Aretine did, (to let Bembo and Arioſto paſſe) with the great admiration, and wonderment of the whole countrey: being in déede reputed matchable in all points, both for conceyt of Witte, and eloquent decypphering of matters, either with Ariſtophanes and Menander in Gréek, or with Plautus and Terence in Latin, or with any other, in any other tong. But I wil not ſtand greatly with you in your owne matters. If ſo be the Faerye Queene be fairer in your eie thã the Nine Muſes, and Hobgoblin runne away with the Garland from Apollo: Marke what I ſaye, and yet I will not ſay that I thought, but there an End for this once, and fare you well, till God or ſome good Aungell putte you in a better minde.

And yet, bicauſe you charge me ſomewhat ſuſpitiouſlye with an olde promiſe, to deliuer you of that iealouſie, I am ſo farre from hyding mine owne matters from you, that loe, I muſte nédes be reuealing my friendes ſecreates, now an honeſt Countrey Gentleman, ſometimes a Scholler: At whoſe requeſt, I beſtowed this pawltring vngrely Rime vpon him, to preſent his Maiſtreſſe withall. The parties ſhall bée nameleſſe: ſauing, that the Gentlewomans true, or counterfaite Chriſten name, muſt neceſſarily be bewrayed.

To

of one, but woulde as well in Writing, as in Speaking, haue them vsed, as *Monosyllaba*, thus: *heavn, seavn, a leavn*, as Maister Ascham in his Toxophilus doth Yrne, commonly written Yron:

Vp to the pap his string did he pull, his shafte to the harde yrne.

Especially the difference so manifestly appearing by the Pronunciation, betwéene these two, *a leavn a clocke* and *a leaven of Dowe*, whyche *lea—ven* admitteth the Diastole, you speake of. But sée, what absurdities thys vnfauoured Orthographye, or rather Pseudography, hathe ingendred: and howe one errour still brédeth and begetteth an other. Haue wée not, *Mooneth*, for *Moonthe*: *sithence*, for *since*: *whilest*, for *whilste*: *phantasie*, for *phansie*: *euen*, for *evn*: *Diuel*, for *Divl*: *God hys wrath*, for *Goddes wrath*: and a thousande of the same stampe: wherein the corrupte Orthography in the moste, hathe béene the sole, or principall cause of corrupte Prosodye in ouer many?

Marry, I confesse some wordes we haue indéede, as for example, *fayer*, either for beautifull, or for a *Marte*: *ayer*, bothe *pro aere*, and *pro haredè*, for we say not *Heire*, but plaine *Aire* for him to (or else Scoggins Aier were a pore iest) whiche are commonly, and maye indifferently be vsed eyther wayes. For you shal as well, and as ordinarily heare *fayer*, as *faire*, and *Aier*, as *Aire*, and bothe alike: not onely of diuers and sundrye persons, but often of the very same: otherwhiles vsing the one, otherwhiles the other: and so *died*, or *dyde*: *spied*, or *spide*: *tryed*, or *tride*: *fyer*, or *fyre*: *myer*, or *myre*: wyth an infinyte companye of the same sorte: sometime *Monosyllaba*, sometime *Polysyllaba*.

To conclude both pointes in one, I dare sweare priuately to your selfe, and will defende publiquely againste any, it is neither Heresie, nor Parador, to sette downe, and stande vppon this assertion, (notwithstanding all the Preiudices and Presumptions to the contrarie, if they were tenne times as manye moe) that it is not, either Position, or Dipthorg,

or

or Diaſkole, or anye like Grammer Schole Deuice, that doeth, or can indæde, either make long or ſhort, or encreaſe, or diminiſh the number of Sillables, but onely the common allowed, and receiued Proſodye: taken vp by an vniuerſall conſent of all, and continued by a generall vſe, and Cuſtome of all. Wherein neuertheleſſe I grant, after long aduiſe, & diligent obſeruation of particulars, a certain Uniform Analogie, and Concordance, being in proceſſe of time eſpyed out. Sometime this, ſometime that, hath bæn noted by good wits in their Analyſes, to fall out generally alyke: and as a man woulde ſaye, regularly in all, or moſte wordes: as Poſition, Dipthong, and the like: not as firſte, and eſſentiall cauſes of this, or that effecte, (here lyeth the point) but as Secundarie and Accidentall Signes, of this, or that Qualitie.

It is the vulgare, and naturall Mother Proſodye, that alone worketh the feate, as the onely ſupreame Founderſſe, and Reformer of Poſition, Dipthong, Orthographie, or whatſoeuer elſe: whoſe Affirmatiues are nothing worth, if ſhe once conclude the Negatiue: and whoſe *ſecundæ intentiones* muſte haue their whole allowance and warrante from hir *primæ*. And therefore in ſhorte, this is the verie ſhorte, and the long: Poſition neither maketh ſhorte, nor long in oure Tongue, but ſo farre as we can get hir good leaue. Peraduenture, vppon the diligent ſuruewe, and examination of Particulars, ſome the like Analogie and Uniformity, might be founde oute in ſome other reſpecte, that ſhoulde as vniuerſally and Canonically holde amongſt vs, as Poſition doeth with the Latines and Grækes. I ſaye, (peraduenture,) bycauſe, hauing not yet made anye ſpeciall Obſeruation, I dare not preciſely affirme any generall certaintie: albeit I preſume, ſo good and ſenſible a Tongue, as ours is, bæyng wythall ſo like itſelfe, as it is, cannot but haue ſomething equipollent, and counteruaileable to the beſte Tongues, in ſome one ſuch kinde of conformitie, or other. And this forſooth is all the Artificial Rules and Precepts, you are like to borrowe of one man at this time.

Sed

Sed amàbo te, ad Corculi tui delicatiſſimas Literas, propediem, quã potero, accuratiſſimè: tot interim illam exquiſitiſſimis ſalutibus, atq; ſalutationibus impertiens, quot habet in Capitulo, capillos ſemiaureos, ſemiargenteos, ſemigemmeos. Quid quaris? Per tuam Venerem altera Roſalindula eſt: eamq; non alter, ſed idem ille, (tua, vt ante, bona cum gratia) copioſè amat Hobbinolus. O mea Domina Immerito, mea belliſſima Collina Clouta, multò plus plurimùm ſalue, atq; vale.

You knowe my ordinarie Poſtſcripte: you may communicate as much, or as little, as you liſt, of theſe Patcheries, and fragments, with the two Gentlemen: but there a ſtraw, and you loue me: not with any elſe, friend or foe, one, or other: vnleſſe haply you haue a ſpecial deſire to imparte ſome parte hereof, to my good friend M. Daniel Rogers: whoſe curteſies are alſo regiſtred in my Parble boke. You knowe my meaning.

Noſti manum & ſtylum.

G.

¶ TVVO OTHER, very commendable Letters, of the ſame mens vvriting: both touching the foreſaid Artificiall Verſifying, and certain other Particulars:

More lately deliucred vnto the Printer.

IMPRINTED AT LONdon, by H. Bynneman, dvvelling in Thames ſtreate, neere vnto Baynardes Caſtell.

Anno Domini. 1580.

Cum gratia & priuilegio Regiæ Maieſtatis.

¶ To the VVorshipfull his very singular good friend, Maister G.H. Fellovv of Trinitie Hall in Cambridge.

Good Maister G. I perceiue by your most curteous and frendly Letters your good will to be no lesse in déed, than I alwayes estæmed. In recópence wherof, think I beseech you, that I wil spare neither spæch, nor wryting, nor aught else, whensoeuer, and wheresoeuer occasion shal be offred me: yea, I will not stay, till it be offred, but will sæke it, in al that possibly I may. And that you may perceiue how much your Counsel in al things preuaileth with me, and how altogither I am ruled and ouer-ruled thereby: I am now determined to alter mine owne former purpose, and to subscribe to your aduizemēt: being notwithstāding resolued stil, to abide your farther resolution. My principal doubts are these. First, I was minded for a while to haue intermitted the vttering of my writings: leaste by ouer-much cloying their noble eares, I should gather a contempt of my self, or else sæme rather for gaine and commoditie to doe it, for some swætnesse that I haue already tasted. Then also me sæmeth the work too base for his excellent Lordship, being made in Honour of a priuate Personage vnknowne, which of some yl-willers might be vpbraided, not to be so worthie, as you knowe she is: or the matter not so weightie, that it should be offred to so weightie a Personage: or the like. The selfe former Title

ſtil liketh me ſwell ynough, and your fine Addition no leſſe. If theſe, and the like doubtes, maye be of importaunce in your ſæming, to fruſtrate any parte of your aduice, I beſeeche you, without the leaſte ſelfe loue of your owne purpoſe, councell me for the beſte: and the rather doe it faithfullye, and carefullye, for that, in all things I attribute ſo muche to your iudgement, that I am euermore content to annihilate mine owne determinations, in reſpecte thereof. And indeede for your ſelfe to, it ſitteth with you now, to call your wits, & ſenſes togither, (which are alwaies at call) when occaſion is ſo fairely offered of Eſtimation and Preferment. For, whiles the yron is hote, it is good ſtriking, and minds of Nobles varie, as their Eſtates. *Verùm ne quid durius.*

I pray you bethinke you well hereof, good Maiſter G. and forthwith write me thoſe two or three ſpecial points and cautels for the nonce, *De quibus in ſuperioribus illis mellitiſſimis, longiſſimiſq; Litteris tuis*. Your deſire to heare of my late bæing with hir Maieſtie, muſte dye in it ſelfe. As for the two worthy Gentlemen, Maiſter Sidney, and Maiſter Dyer, they haue me, I thanke them, in ſome vſe of familiarity: of whom, and to whome, what ſpeache paſſeth for youre credite and eſtimation, I leaue your ſelfe to conceiue, hauing alwayes ſo well conceiued of my vnfained affection, and zeale towardes you. And nowe they haue proclaimed in their ἀριωπαγῷ, a generall ſurceaſſing and ſilence of balde Rymers, and alſo of the verie beſte to: in ſteade whereof, they haue by authotie of their whole Senate, preſcribed certaine Lawes and rules of Quantities of Engliſh ſillables, for Engliſh Uerſe: hauing had thereof already greate practiſe, and drawen mæ to their faction. Newe Bookes I heare of none, but only of one, that writing a certaine Booke, called The Schoole of Abuſe, and dedicating it to Maiſter Sidney, was for hys labor ſcorned: if at leaſte it be in the goodneſſe of that nature to ſcorne. Suche follie is it, not to regarde afore hande the inclination and qualitie of him, to whome wæ dedicate oure Bookes. Suche mighte I happily incurre, entituling My

Slomber,

Slomber, and the other Pamphlets, vnto his honor. I meant them rather to Maister Dyer. But I am, of late, more in loue wyth my Englishe Versifying, than with Ryming: whyche I should haue done long since, if I would thē haue followed your councell. *Sed te solum iam tum suspicabar cum Aschamo sapere: nunc Aulam video egregios alere Poetas Anglicos.* Maister E. K. hartily desireth to be commended vnto your Worshippe: of whome, what accompte he maketh, youre selfe shall hereafter perceiue, by hys paynefull and dutifull Verses of your selfe.

Thus muche was written at Westminster yesternight: but comming this morning, béeyng the sixtéenth of October, to Mystresse Kerkes, to haue it deliuered to the Carrier, I receyued youre letter, sente me the laste wéeke: whereby I perceiue you otherwhiles continue your old exercise of Versifying in English: whych glorie I had now thought shoulde haue bene onely ours héere at London, and the Court.

Truste me, your Verses I like passingly well, and enuye your hidden paines in this kinde, or rather maligne, and grudge at your selfe, that woulde not once imparte so muche to me. But once, or twice, you make a breache in Maister Drants Rules: *quod tamen condonabimus tanto Poetæ, tuæq; ipsius maximæ in his rebus autoritati.* You shall sée when we méete in London, (whiche, when it shall be, certifye vs) howe fast I haue followed after you, in that Course: beware, leaste in time I ouertake you. *Veruntamen te solùm sequar, (vt sæpenumerò sum professus,) nunquam sanè assequar, dum viuam.* And nowe requite I you with the like, not with the verye beste, but with the verye shortest, namely with a fewe *Iambickes*: I dare warrant, they be precisely perfect for the féete (as you can easily iudge) and varie not one inch from the Rule. I will imparte yours to Maister Sidney, and Maister Dyer, at my nexte going to the Courte. I praye you, kéepe mine close to your selfe, or your verie entire friendes, Maister Preston, Maister Still, and the reste.

Iambicum

Iambicum Trimetrum.

VNhappie Verſe, the witneſſe of my vnhappie ſtate,
Make thy ſelfe fluttring wings of thy faſt flying
Thought, and fly forth vnto my Loue, wherſoeuer ſhe be:
Whether lying reaſtleſſe in heauy bedde, or elſe
Sitting ſo cheereleſſe at the cheerfull boorde, or elſe
Playing alone careleſſe on hir heauenlie Virginals.
If in Bed, tell hir, that my eyes can take no reſte:
If at Boorde, tell hir, that my mouth can eate no meate:
If at hir Virginals, tel hir, I can heare no mirth.
Aſked why? ſay: Waking Loue ſuffereth no ſleepe:
Say, that raging Loue dothe appall the weake ſtomacke:
Say, that lamenting Loue marreth the Muſicall.
Tell hir, that hir pleaſures were wonte to lull me aſleepe:
Tell hir, that hir beautie was wonte to feede mine eyes:
Tell hir, that hir ſweete Tongue was wonte to make me mirth.
Nowe doe I nightly waſte, wanting my kindely reſte:
Nowe doe I dayly ſtarue, wanting my liuely foode:
Nowe doe I alwayes dye, wanting thy timely mirth.
And if I waſte, who will bewaile my heauy chaunce?
And if I ſtarue, who will record my curſed end?
And If I dye, who will ſaye: *this was, Immerito?*

I thought once agayne here to haue made an ende, with a heartie *Vale*, of the beſt faſhion: but loe, an vnlauoured myſchaunce. My laſt farewell, whereof I made great accompt, and muche maruelled you ſhoulde make no mention thereof, I am nowe tolde, (in the Diuels name) was thorough one mans negligence quite forgotten, but ſhoulde nowe vndoubtedly haue béene ſent, whether I hadde come, or no. Seing it can now be no otherwiſe, I pray you take all togither, wyth all their faultes: and nowe I hope, you will vouchſafe mée an anſweare of the largeſt ſize, or elſe I tell you true, you ſhall bée verye déepe in my debte: notwythſtandyng, thys other ſwéete, but ſhorte letter, and fine, but fewe Verſes. But I woulde rather I might yet ſée youre owne good ſelfe, and receiue a Reciprocall farewell from your owne ſwéete mouth.

Ad

Ad Ornatiſsimum virum, multis iamdiu nominibus clariſsimum, G. H. Immerito

ſui, mox in Gallias nauigaturi,

εὐτυχεῖν.

SIc malus egregium, ſic non inimicus Amicum:
Sicq́ nouus veterem iubet ipſe Poëta Poëtam,
Saluere, ac calo poſt ſecula multa ſecundo
Iam reducem, calo mage, quàm nunc ipſe, ſecundo
Vtier. Ecce Deus, (modò ſit Deus ille, renixum
Qui vocet in ſcelus, & iuratos perdat amores).
Ecce Deus mihi clara dedit modò ſigna Marinus,
Et ſua veligero lenis parat Æquora Ligno,
Mox ſulcanda, ſuas etiam pater Æolus Iras
Ponit, & ingentes animos Aquilonis———
Cuncta vijs ſic apta meis: ego ſolus ineptus.
Nam mihi neſcio quo mens ſaucia vulnere, dudum
Fluctuat ancipiti Pelago, dum Nauita proram
Inualidam validùs rapit huc Amor, & rapit illuc.
Conſilijs Ratio melioribus vſa, decuſq́
Immortale leui diffeſſa Cupidinis Arcu.
Angimur hoc dubio, & portu vexamur in ipſo.
Magne pharetrati nunc tu contemptor Amoris,
(Id tibi Dij nomen precor haud impune remittant)
Hos nodos exſolue, & eris mihi magnus Apollo.
Spiritus ad ſummos, ſcio, te generoſus Honores
Exſtimulat, maiuſq́ docet ſpirare Poëtam,
Quàm leuis eſt Amor, & tamen haud leuis eſt Amor omnis.
Ergo nihil laudi reputas æquale perenni,
Praq́ ſacroſancta ſplendoris imagine tanti,
Catera, quæ vecors, vti Numina, vulgus adorat,
Prædia, Amicitias, vrbana peculia, Nummos,
Quaq́ placent oculis, formas, ſpectacula, Amores
Conculcare ſoles, vt humum, & ludibria ſenſus.
Digna meo certè Haruejo ſententia, digna

H. Oratore

Oratore amplo, & generoſo pectore, quam non
Stoica formidet veterum Sapientia vinclis
Sancire aternis: ſapor haud tamen omnibus idem.
Dicitur effati proles facunda Laërta,
Quamlibet ignoti iactata per æquora Cali,
Inq; procelloſo longùm exſul gurgite ponto,
Præ tamen amplexu lachrymoſæ Coniugis, Ortus
Cæleſtes Diuumq; thoros ſperniſſe beatos.
Tantùm Amor, & Mulier, vel Amore potentior. Illum
Tu tamen illudis: tua Magnificentia tanta eſt:
Præq; ſubumbrata Splendoris Imagine tanti,
Præq; illo Meritis famoſis nomine parto,
Cætera, quæ Vecors, vti Numina, vulgus adorat,
Prædia, Amicitias, armenta, peculia, nummos.
Quæq; placent oculis, formas, ſpectacula, Amores,
Quæq; placent ori, quæq; auribus, omnia temnis.
Ne tu grande ſapis, Sapor at ſapientia non eſt:
Omnis & in paruis benè qui ſcit deſipuiſſe,
Sæpe ſupercilijs palmam ſapientibus aufert.
Ludit Ariſtippum modo tetrica Turba Sophorum,
Mitia purpureo moderantem verba Tyranno
Ludit Ariſtippus dictamina vana Sophorum,
Quos leuis emenſi male torquet Culicis vmbra:
Et quiſquis placuiſſe Studet Heroibus altis,
Deſipuiſſe ſtudet, ſic gratia creſcit ineptis.
Deniq; Laurigeris quiſquis ſua tempora vittis,
Inſignire volet, Populoq; placere fauenti,
Deſipere inſanus diſcit, turpemq; pudenda
Stultitiæ laudem quærit. Peter Ennius vnus
Dictus in innumeris ſapiens: laudatur at ipſe
Carmina veſano fudiſſe liquentio vino.
Nec tu pace tua, noſtri Cato Maxime ſæcli,
Nomen honorati ſacrum mereare Poëtæ,
Quantamuis illuſtre canas, & nobile Carmen,
Ni ſtultire velis, ſic Sultorum omnia plena.
Tuta ſed in medio ſupereſt via gurgite, nam Qui

Nec reliquis nimiùm vult deſipuiſſe videri,
Nec ſapuiſſe nimis, Sapientem dixeris vnum.
Hinc te merſerit vnda, illinc combuſſerit Ignis.
Nec tu delicias nimis aſpernare fluentes,
Nec ſerò Dominam, venientem in vota, nec Aurum
Si ſapis, ablatum, (Curijs ea, Fabricij q̃
Linque viris miſeris miſeranda Sophiſmata: quondam
Grande ſui decus ij, voſtri ſed dedecus aui:)
Nec ſectare nimis. Res vtraq; crimine plena.
Hoc bene qui callet, (ſi quis tamen hoc bene callet)
Scribe, vel invito ſapientem hunc Socrate ſolum.
Vis facit vna pios: Iuſtos facit altera: & altra
Egregiè cordata, ac fortia pectora: verùm
Omne tulit punctum, qui miſcuit vtile dulci.
Dij mihi, dulce diu dederant: verùm vtile nunq̃:
Vtile nunc etiam, ô vtinam quoq; dulce dediſſent.
Dij mihi, (quippe Dijs equinalia maxima parvis)
Ni nimis inuideant mortalibus eſſe beatis,
Dulce ſimul tribuiſſe queant, ſimul vtile: tanta
Sed Fortuna tua eſt: pariter quæq; vtile, quæq;
Dulce dat ad placitum: ſæuo nos ſydere nati
Quæſitum imus eam per inhoſpita Caucaſa longè,
Per q̃ Pyrenæos montes, Babilonaq; turpem,
Quòd ſi quæſitum nec ibi invenerimus, ingens
Æquor inexhauſtis permenſi erroribus, vltrà
Fluctibus in medijs ſocij quæremus Vlyſſis.
Paſſibus inde Deam feſſis comitabimur agram,
Nobile cui furtum quærenti defuit orbis.
Namq; ſinu pudet in patrio, tenebriſq; pudendis
Non nimis ingenio Iuuenem infœlice, virentes,
Officijs fruſtra deperdere vilibus Annos,
Frugibus & vacuas ſperatis cernere ſpicas.
Ibimus ergo ſtatim: (quis eunti fauſta precetur?)
Et pede Cliboſas feſſo calcabimus Alpes.
Quis dabit interea conditas rore Britanno,
Quis tibi Litterulas? quis carmen amore petulcum?

Musa sub Oebalij desueta cacumine montis,
Flebit inexhausto tam longa silentia planctu,
Lugebitq; sacrum lachrymis Helicona tacentem.
Harueiusq; bonus, (charus licet omnibus idem,
Idq; suo merito, prope suauior omnibus vnus,)
Angelus & Gabriel, (quamuis comitatus amicis
Innumeris, geniumq; choro stipatus amæno)
Immento *tamen vnum absentem sæpe requiret,*
Optabitq; Vtinam meus hîc Edmundus *adesset,*
Qui noua scripsisset, nec Amores conticuisset,
Ipse suos, & sæpe animo, verbisq; benignis
Fausta precaretur: Deus illum aliquando reducat. &c.

Plura vellem per Charites, sed non licet per Musas.
Vale, Vale plurimùm, Mi amabilissime Harucie, meo cordi, meorum
omnium longè charissime.

I was minded also to haue sent you some English verses: or Rymes, for a farewell: but by my Troth, I haue no spare time in the world, to thinke on such Toyes, that you knowe will demaund a freer head, than mine is presently. I beseeche you by all your Curtesies, and Graces, let me be answered, ere I goe: which will be, (I hope, I feare, I thinke) the next weeke, if I can be dispatched of my Lorde. I goe thither, as sent by him, and maintained most what of him: and there am to employ my time, my body, my minde, to his Honours seruice. Thus with many superhartie Commendations, and Recommendations to your selfe, and all my friendes with you, I ende my last Farewell, not thinking any more to write vnto you, before I goe: and withall committing to your faithfull Credence the eternall Memorie of our euerlasting friendship, the inuiolable Memorie of our vnspotted friendshippe, the sacred Memorie of our vowed friendship: which I beseech you Continue with vsuall writings, as you may, and of all things let me heare some Newes from you. As gentle M. Sidney, I thanke his good Worship, hath required of me, and so promised to doe againe. *Qui monet, vt facias,*

facias, quod iam facis, you knowe the reſt. You may alwayes ſend them moſt ſafely to me by Miſtreſſe Kerke, and by none other. Sounce againe, and yet once more, Farewell moſt hartily, mine owne good Maſter H. and loue me, as I loue you, and thinke vpon poore Immerito, as he thinketh vppon you.

Leyceſter Houſe. This. 5. of October. 2579.

Per mare, per terras,
Vnus, mortuusq́,
Tuus Immerito.

To my verie Friende, M. Immerito.

Liberaliſſimo Signor Immerito, in good ſoothe my poore Store-houſe will preſently affourd me nothing, either to recompence, or counteruaile your gentle Maſterſhips, long, large, lauiſh, Luxurious, Laratiue Letters withall, (now a Gods name, when did I euer in my life, hunt the Letter before: but, belike, theres no remedie, I muſt nedes be euen with you once in my dayes,) but only forſoothe, a fewe Millions of Recommendations, and a running Coppie of the Verſes enclosed. Which Verſes, (*extra iocum*) are ſo well done in Latin by two Doctors, and ſo well Tranſlated into Engliſh by one odde Gentleman, and generally ſo well allowed of all, that chaunced to haue the peruſing of them: that truſt me, G.H. was at the firſt hardly intreated, to ſhame himſelfe, and truely, now bluſheth, to ſee the firſt Letters of his name, ſtande ſo neere their Names, as of neceſſitie they muſt. You knowe ỹ *Greeke* prouerb, πορφύρα πρὸς πορφύραν διαφέρει, and many colours, (as in a manner euery thing elſe) that

ſeuerally by themſelues, ſéeme reaſonably good, and freſhe y-nough, beyng compared, and ouermatched wyth their betters, are maruellouſly diſgraced, and as it were, daſhed quite oute of Countenaunce. I am at this inſtant, very buſilye, and hotly employed in certaine greate and ſerious affayres: whereof, notwithſtanding (for all youre vowed, and long experimented ſecretie) you are not like to heare a worde more at the moſte, till I my ſelfe ſée a World more at the leaſte. And therefore, for this once I beſeech you (notwithſtanding your greate expectation of I knowe not what Volumes for an aunſweare) content your good ſelfe, with theſe Preſentes, (pardon me, I came lately out of a Scriueners ſhop) and in lieu of many gentle Farewels, & goodly Godbewyes, at your departure: gyue me once againe leaue, to playe the Counſaylour a while, if it be but to iuſtifie your liberall Maſterſhippes, *Noſtri Cato maxime ſæcli*: and I conjure you by the Contents of the Verſes, and Rymes encloſed, and by al the good, and bad Spirites, that attende vpon the Authors themſelues, immediatly vpon the contemplation thereof, to abandon all other folleries, and honour Vertue, the onely immortall and ſurviuing Accident amongſt ſo manye mortall, and euer-periſhing Subſtaunces. As I ſtrongly preſume, ſo good a Verſe, ſo clearkly handeled, by thée ſo famous Doctours, as olde Maiſter Wythipole, and the other two bée, may eaſily, and will fully perſwade you, howſoeuer you tuſh at the fourths vnſutable Paraphraſe. But a worde or two, to your large, lauiſhe, laſtiue Letters, and then for thys time, Adieu. Of my credite, youre doubtes are not ſo redoubted, as youre ſelfe euer ſuſpiciouſly imagine: as I purpoſe ſhortely to aduize you more at large. Your hotte yron, is ſo hotte, that it ſtriketh mée to the hearte, I dare not come neare to ſtrike it: The Tyde tarryeth no manne, but manye a good manne is fayne to tarry the Tyde. And I knowe ſome, whyche coulde be content to bée theyr owne Caruers, that are gladde to thanke other for theyr courteſie:

sie: But Beggars, they saye, muste be no chooſers.

Your new-founded ἄρειον πάγον I honoure more, than you will or can suppose: and make greater accompte of the twoo worthy Gentlemenne, than of two hundreth *Dionisij Areopagitæ*, or the verye notablest Senatours, that euer *Athens* dydde affourde of that number.

Your Englishe *Trimetra* I lyke better, than perhappes you will easily beléeue: and am to requite them wyth better, or worse, at more conuenient leysure. Marry, you must pardon me, I finde not your warrant so sufficiently good, and substauntiall in Lawe, that it can persuade me, they are all, so precisely perfect for the Féete, as your selfe ouer-partially wéene, and ouer-confidently auouche: especiallye the thirde, whyche hathe a foote more than a Lowce (a wonderous deformitie in a righte and pure Senarie) and the sixte, whiche is also in the same Predicament, vnlesse happly one of the féete be sawed off wyth a payre of Syncopes: and then shoulde the Orthographie haue testified so muche: and in steade of *Hēauēnlĭ Virgĭnāls*, you should haue written, *Heaūnlĭ Virgnāls*: & *Virgnāls* againe in the ninth, & should haue made a Curtoll of *Immĕrĭtō* in the laste: being all notwithstandyng vsuall, and tollerable ynoughe, in a mixte, and licentious Iambicke: and of two euilles, better (no doubte) the fyrste, than the laste: a thyrde superfluous sillable, thā a dull Spondee. Then me thinketh, you haue in my fancie somwhat too many Spondees beside: and whereas Trochee sometyme presumeth in the firste place, as namely in the second Verse, *Make thy*, whyche *thy*, by youre Maistershippes owne authoritie muste néedes be shorte, I shall be faine to supplye the office of the Arte Memoratiue, and putte you in minde of a pretty Fable in Abstemio the Italian, implying thus much, or rather thus little in effect.

A certaine lame man beyng invited to a solempne Nuptiall Feaste, made no more adoe, but sate me hym roundlye downe foremoste at the hyghest ende of the Table.

The

The Maſter of the feaſt, ſuddainly ſpying his preſumption, and hanſomely remouing him from thence, placed me this haulting Gentleman belowe at the nether end of the bourd: alledging for his defence the common verſe: *Sedes nulla datur, præterquam ſexta Trochæo:* and pleaſantly alluding to this fœte, which ſtanding vppon two ſyllables, the one long, the other ſhort, (much like, of a like, his gueſtes fœte) is alwayes thruſt downe to the laſt place, in a true Hexameter, and quite thruſt out of dores in a pure, and iuſt Senarie. Nowe Syr, what thinke you, I began to thinke with my ſelfe, when I began to reade your warrant firſt: ſo boldly, and venterouſly ſet downe in ſo formall, and autentique wordes, as theſe, Preciſely perfit, and not an inch from the Rule? Ah Syrrha, and Ieſu Lord, thought I, haue we at the laſt gotten one, of whom his olde friendes and Companions may iuſtly glory, *In eo ſolùm peccat, quòd nihil peccat*: and that is yet more exacte, and preciſe in his Engliſh Comicall Iambickes, than euer M. Watſon himſelfe was in his Latin Tragicall Iambickes, of whom M. Aſcham reporteth, that he would neuer to this day ſuffer his famous Abſolon to come abrode, onely becauſe *Anapæſtus in Locis paribus*, is twice, or thrice vſed in ſteade of *Iambus*? A ſmall fault, ywiſſe, and ſuch a one in M. Aſchams owne opinion, as perchaunce woulde neuer haue bene eſpyed, no neither in *Italy*, nor in *Fraunce*. But when I came to the curious ſcanning, and fingering of euery fote, & ſyllable: Lo here, quoth I, M. Watſons *Anapæſtus* for all the worlde. A good horſe, that trippeth not once in a iourney: and M. Immerito doth, but as M. Watſon, & in a manner all other *Iambici* haue done before him: marry he might haue ſpared his preface, or at ỳ leaſt, that ſame reſtrictiue, & ſtreightlaced terme, Preciſely, and all had bẽn well enough: and I aſſure you, of my ſelfe, I beleeue, no peece of a fault marked at all. But this is the Effect of warrantes, and perhappes the Errour may rather proceede of his Maſter, M. Drantes Rule, than of himſelfe. Howſoeuer it is, the matter is not great, and I alwayes was, and will euer continue of this Opinion,

Pauca

Pauca multis condonanda vitia Virtutibus, especially these being no *Vitia* neither, in a common and licencious Iambicke. *Verùm ista obiter, non quidem contradicendi animo, aut etiam corrigendi mihi crede: sed nostro illo Academico, pristinoq; more ratiocinandi.* And to saye trueth, partely to, to requite your gentle courtesie in beginning to me, and noting I knowe not what breache in your gorbellyed Maisters Rules: which Rules go for good, I perceiue, and kéepe a Rule, where there be no better in presence. My selfe neither sawe them, nor heard of them before: and therefore will neither praise them, nor dispraise them nowe: but vppon the suruiewe of them, and farther conference, (both which I desire) you shall sone heare one mans opinion to or fro. Youre selfe remember, I was wonte to haue some prejudice of the man: and I still remaine a fauourer of his deserued, and iust commendation. Marry in these poyntes, you knowe, Partialitie in no case, may haue a sote: and you remember mine olde Stoicall exclamation: Fie on childish affection, in the discoursing, and deciding of schoole matters. This I say, because you charge me with an vnknowne authoritie: which for aught I know yet, may as wel be either vnsufficient, or faultie, as otherwise: and I dare more than halfe promise, (I dare not saye, warrant) you shall alwayes in these kinde of controuersies, finde me nighe hande answerable in mine owne defence. *Reliqua omnia, quæ de hac supersunt Anglicorum versuum ratione, in aliud tempus reseruabimus, ociosum magis.* Youre Latine Farewell is a goodly braue ponkerly péece of worke, and Goddilge yée, I am alwayes maruellously beholding vnto you, for your bountifull Titles: I hope by that time I haue béen resident a yeare or two in Italy, I shall be better qualifyed in this kind, and more able to requite your lauishe, and magnificent liberalitie that way. But to let Titles and Tittles passe, and come to the very pointe in déede, whiche so neare toucheth my lusty Trauayler to the quicke, and is one of the prædominant humors ỹ raigne in our cómon Youths: *Heus mi tu, bone proce, magne mulierculārum amator, egregie Pamphile,*

eum aliquando tandem, qui te manet, qui mulieroſos omnes, qui vniuerſam Fæminiſtarum ſectam, Reſpice finem. And I ſhal then be content to appeale to your owne learned experience, whether it be, or be not, too too true: *quod dici ſolet à me ſæpe: à te ipſo nonnunq̃: ab expertis omnibus quotidie: Amare amarum: Nec deus, vt perhibent, Amor eſt, ſed amaror, & error: & quicquid in eandem ſolet ſententiam Empiricõs aggregari. Ac ſcite mihi quidẽ Agrippa Ouidianam illam,* de Arte Amandi, ἐπιγραφὴν *videtur correxiſſe, meritóq;,* de Arte Meretricandi, *inſcripſiſſe. Nec verò ineptè alius,* Amatores Alchumiſtis *comparauit, aureos, argenteoſq; montes, atq; fontes lepidè ſomniantibus, ſed interim miſerè immanibus Carbonum fumis propemodum occæcatis, atq; etiam ſuffocatis: præterq̃ celebratum illum Adami Paradiſum, alium eſſe quendam prædicauit, ſtultorum quoq; Amatorumq; mirabilem Paradiſum: illum verè, hunc phantaſticè, fanaticeq; beatorum. Sed hæc alias, fortaſſis vberiùs.* Credite me, I will neuer linne battyng at you, til I haue rid you quite of this ponkerly, & womanly humor. And as for your ſpædy and haſty trauell: me thinks I dare ſtil wager al the Bookes & writings in my ſtudy, which you know, I eſtæme of greater value, than al the golde & ſiluer in my purſe, or cheſt, that you wil not, (and yet I muſte take héde, how I make my bargaine with ſo ſubtile and intricate a Sophiſter) that you ſhall not, I ſaye, bée gone ouer Sea, for al your ſaying, neither the nert, nor the nexte wœke. And then peraduenture I may perſonally performe your requeſt, and beſtowe the ſwœteſt Farewell, vpon your ſwœtmouthed Paſhippe, that ſo vnſwœte a Tong, and ſo ſowre a paire of Lippes can affoorde. And, thinke you I will leaue my *Il Pellegrino* ſo? No I trowe. My Lords Honor, the expectation of his friendes, his owne credite and preferment, tell me, he muſte haue a moſte ſpeciall care, and good regarde of employing his trauaile to the beſt. And therfore I am ſtudying all this fortnight, to reade him ſuche a Lecture in Homers Odyſſes, and Virgils Æneads, that I dare vndertake he ſhall not nède any further inſtruction, in Maiſter Turlers Trauayler, or Maiſter Zuingers

Methodus

Methodus Apodemica: but in his whole trauaile abroade, and euer after at home, shall shewe himselfe a verie liuelye and absolute picture of Vlysses and Æneas. Wherof I haue the stronger hope he muste nédes proue a moste capable and apt subiecte (I speake to a Logician) hauing the selfe same Goddesses and Graces attendant vpon his body and mind, that euermore guided them, & their actions: especially ỳ ones Minerua, and the others Venus: that is (as one Doctor expoundeth it) the pollitique head, and wise gouernement of the one: and the amiable behauiour, and gratious courtesie of the other: the two verye principall, and moste singular Companions, of a right Trauailer: and as perhaps one of oure subtile Logicians woulde saye, the two inseparable, and indiuisible accidents of the foresaide Subiects. *De quibus ipsis, caterisq; omnibus artificis Apodemici instrumentis: inprimisq; de Homerica illa, diuinaq; herba* μῶλυ δ' ἐ μινηαλέουσιθεόι *) qua Vlissem suum Mercurius, aduersus* Cyrcea *& pocula, & carmina, & venena, morbosq; omnes præmuniuit: & coram, vti spero, breui: & longè, vti soleo, copiosius: & fortasse etiam, aliquantò, quàm soleo, cum subtiliùs, tum verò Politicè, Pragmaticeq; magis. Interim tribus eris syllabis contentus, ac valebis.* Trinitie Hall, stil in my Gallerie. 23. Octob. 1579. Inhaste.

Yours, as you knowe. G. H.

I.H. Cer-

Certaine Latin Verſes, of the frailtie and mutabilitie of all things, ſauing onely Ver-

tue: made by M. Doctor Norton, for the right Worſhipfull, M. Thomas Sackford, Maſter of Requeſtes vnto hir Maieſtie.

ἀκροστιχὰ.

Th. *TEmpora furtiuo morſu laniantur amana,*
S *Senſim floreſcunt, occubitura breui.*
A *Anni vere ſalit, Senio mox conficiendus,*
C *Cura, labor ditant, non eadem q3 premunt?*
F *Fallax, vel vigili ſtudio Sapientia parta:*
O *Oh, & magnatum gloria ſæpe iacet,*
R *Res inter varias fluimus, ruimus q3 gradatim:*
D. *Dulcia Virtutis præmia ſola manent.*

The ſame paraphraſticallie varied by M.

Doctor Gouldingam, at the requeſt of olde M. Wythipoll of Ipſwiche.

T. *TEmpora furtiuo labuntur dulcia curſu,*
S *Subſidunt q3 breui, quæ viguere diu.*
A *Autumno capitur, quicquid nouus educat annus:*
C *Curta Iuuentutis gaudia, Fata ſecant.*
F *Fallax Ambitio eſt, at q3 anxia cura tenendi,*
O *Obſcurum decus, & nomen inane Sophi.*
R *Res Fors humanas incerto turbine voluit,*
D. *Dulcia Virtutis præmia ſola manent.*

Olde

Olde Maiſter Wythipols owne Tranſlation.

OVr merry dayes, by theeuiſh bit are pluckt, and torne away,
And euery luſtie growing thing, in ſhort time doth decay.
The pleaſaunt Spring times ioy, how ſoone it groweth olde?
And wealth that gotten is with care, doth noy as much, be bolde.
No wiſedome had with Trauaile great, is for to truſt in deede,
For great Mens ſtate we ſee decay, and fall downe like a weede.
Thus by degrees we fleete, and ſinke in worldly things full faſt,
But Vertues ſweete and due rewardes ſtande ſure in euery blaſt.

The ſame Paraphraſtically varied by Maſter G.H. at M. Peter Wythipolles requeſt, for his Father.

THeſe pleaſant dayes, and Monthes, and yeares, by ſtelth do paſſe apace,
And do not things, that floriſh moſt, ſoone fade, and loſe their grace?
Ieſu, how ſoone the Spring of yeare, and Spring of youthfull rage,
Is come, and gone, and ouercome, and ouergone with age?
In paine is gaine, but doth not paine as much detract from health,
As it doth adde vnto our ſtore, when moſt we roll in wealth?
Wiſedome hir ſelfe muſt haue hir doome, and graueſt muſt to graue,
And mightieſt power ſib to a flower: what then remaines to craue?
Nowe vp, now downe, we flowe, and rowe in ſeas of worldly cares,
Vertue alone eternall is, and ſhee the Laurell weares.

L' Enuoy.

Soone ſaid, ſoone writ, ſoone learnd: ſoone trimly done in proſe, or verſe:
Beleeud of ſome, practizd of fewe, from Cradle to their Herſe.

Virtuti, non tibi Feci.

M. Peter Wythipoll.

Et Virtuti, & mihi:
Virtuti, ad laudem:
Mihi, ad vſum.

FINIS.